



NEWSLINE

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 22, 2001

Mr. Charles M. Bunner
Secretary-Treasurer
West Virginia Horseshoe Pitchers Association
508 Ohio Avenue
Fairmont, West Virginia 26554-4155

Dear Mr. Bunner:

Thank you for letting me know your views. I welcome information from Americans across the country, and I value your input.

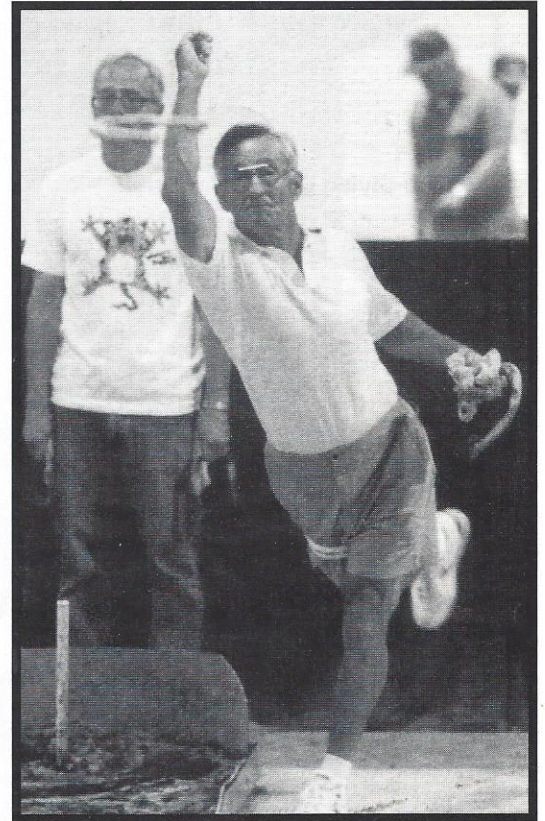
I am confident that we, as a Nation, can put our differences aside and work together in a spirit of bipartisan cooperation to do what is in the best interest of all our citizens.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

**A PRESIDENTIAL ISSUE
(QUEST FOR A POSTAGE STAMP)**

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COVER

President George Bush's letter, acknowledging Charles M. Bunner's request for an endorsement of the NHPA's continuous goal of a commemorative postage stamp honoring the sport of horseshoes; On right, photo of Dave Hummel, legally blind, pitching in the 1997 World Tournament in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, when he possessed full sight.

NEWSLINE ARTIST: Cori Knox

NHPF NEWS & CONTRIBUTION UPDATE by Dave Loucks

Four NHPF directors recently got together in Joelton during the New Melle vs Tennessee match up. While they were there for a little horseshoe pitching, they took the opportunity to hold an unofficial meeting and gather the latest info on the facility from Jack Freeman. It was reported that Jack has split the remaining 7-acre improved parcel and quit-claimed the back portion with the 20 outdoor covered courts to the NHPF. It is within this large roofed structure

that the initial NHPA Hall of Fame room is planned for enclosure. Three contractors have already looked at the site and been asked for opinions on how best to proceed with enclosing and finishing rooms under the existing metal roof that covers the 20 courts. No cost estimates have yet been requested as we are waiting for a county inspection of the existing septic system and their ruling on whether it will be adequate for the added restrooms that would accompany the

Hall of Fame construction. Hopefully, we will have further positive news to report by World Tournament time.

The four-year advance-ruling period the IRS granted the NHPF for operation as a publicly supported charitable organization ended December 31, 2000. I had to present the IRS with a full 4-year financial report regarding contributions, their source and amount. This was expected, as the IRS

Continued on page 34

Contributions received in January and February

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|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
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| 2. California, 96 for \$10,126 | 18. Washington, 20 for \$1,575 | 34. Louisiana, 4 for \$275 |
| 3. Georgia, 13 for \$5,655 | 19. Illinois, 42 for \$1,555 | 35. Oklahoma, 7 for \$243 |
| 4. Minnesota, 95 for \$4,307 | 20. Indiana, 15 for \$1,308 | 36. Idaho, 5 for \$235 |
| 5. Wisconsin, 50 for \$4,080 | 21. Pennsylvania, 26 for \$1,289 | 37. New Mexico, 4 for \$235 |
| 6. Massachusetts, 6 for \$3,990 | 22. Nebraska, 16 for \$1,136 | 38. Wyoming, 3 for \$182 |
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| 10. Michigan, 63 for \$3,502 | 26. New York, 22 for \$779 | 42. Alaska, 1 for \$120 |
| 11. Colorado, 30 for \$3,246 | 27. Connecticut, 16 for \$537 | 43. New Hampshire, 2 for \$105 |
| 12. Florida, 44 for \$2,693 | 28. South Carolina, 9 for \$435 | 44. Utah, 3 for \$100 |
| 12. Texas, 25 for \$2,655 | 29. South Dakota, 11 for \$432 | 45. Virginia, 4 for \$73 |
| 14. Ohio, 60 for \$2,473 | 38. Alabama, 3 for \$370 | 46. Vermont, 1 for \$25 |
| 15. Iowa, 17 for \$1,846 | 31. Montana, 5 for \$320 | 47. Delaware, 1 for \$7 |
| 16. Kentucky, 25 for \$1,810 | 32. West Virginia, 10 for \$295 | |

World Tournament Prize List for Year 2001

CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY

	<u>Men/Women</u>	<u>Sr.M/Elder</u>	<u>Boys</u>
1.	\$ 3,200	\$1,500	\$600
2.	2,130	1,000	400
3.	1,600	750	300
4.	1,200	600	280
5.	1,000	500	260
6.	800	400	240
7.	650	350	220
8.	550	320	200
9.	450	300	\$2,500
10.	400	280	
11.	360	260	
12.	320	240	
13.	300	\$6,500	
14.	280		
15.	260		
16.	250		
	\$13,750		

CLASS PLAY

<u>Sr.W/Girls</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>
\$600	\$300	\$300	\$300
400	200	200	200
300	150	150	150
270	110	120	130
230	100	110	120
200	\$860	100	110
\$2,000		\$980	100
			\$1,110

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RULES CHANGE PROPOSAL

INTRODUCTION

During the first two weeks of last October on the NHPA Website there were many e-mails debating 'what is a ringer' and what is meant by 'encircling the stake'. Many good comments were submitted for why a 'three point touch' shoe (a shoe where the straightedge touches both calk points and the stake simultaneously during a ringer measurement) should be called a ringer, as well as explanations for why the 'three point touch' shoe is not a ringer per the current playing rules. Both viewpoints were actually correct because the current ringer rule has 2 separate conditions for a shoe to be a ringer. The first sentence of the ringer rule says the shoe has to 'encircle the stake' and the second sentence says the shoe has 'to clear the stake'.

The disagreement on 'what constitutes a ringer' arises from the fact that it is possible for a 'three point touch' shoe to encircle the stake and meet the first sentence requirement and have the straightedge clear 99% of the stake (because the stake is round) and therefore not meet the total clearance required by the second sentence. This double requirement creates confusion and has caused the ringer rule to be rewritten several times since the first game rules were established by the early American Horseshoe Pitching Association and later by the National Horseshoe Pitching Association.

RULE CHANGE PROPOSAL

With respect to the NHPA Website discussions last October and the continuing 'clear the stake' problem with the ringer rule, I am now submitting a Playing Rule Change Request to change the existing NHPA ringer rule 6B1 (Rule 6, Section B, Paragraph 1) which currently reads as follows:

EXISTING RULE

6B1 Ringer - A ringer is a shoe which comes to rest encircling the stake. A straightedge touching both points or any part of the heel calks of the shoe must clear (not touch) the stake in order for a shoe to be declared a ringer. A ringer has a value of three points.

This Playing Rule Change Request will change one word in the second sentence; the word 'not' inside the parenthesis will be changed to 'or'. The Proposed Ringer Rule revised wording is as follows with the one changed word in all capital letters:

PROPOSED RULE

6B1 Ringer - A ringer is a shoe which comes to rest encircling the stake. A straightedge touching both points or any part of the heel calks of

the shoe must clear (OR touch) the stake in order for a shoe to be declared a ringer. A ringer has a value of three points.

REASONS FOR CHANGE

1. To correctly define 'encircling the stake' - The NHPA Guidelines For Judges states "You may need a dollar bill, piece of cellophane, or a .001 of an inch shim to slip between the stake and

Continued next page

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The edges of the Mr. D. Shoe are not round like they are on other shoes. The extra, extra heavy heels tend to keep the heels down as the shoe rings the stake, giving the square edges, and the calks on the bottom of the heels a better chance to grab the pit surface, or the other shoes on the stake, to prevent the shoe from turning around. This will lessen the chance of it being knocked off the stake.

An ideal flip has the shoe coming to the stake as it has just leveled out. Sometimes our aim is off just enough that the point, or heel, of the shoe will hit the stake as the shoe comes in. The points of the heel of the Mr. D. Shoe are at a slant, so that the first part of the shoe to hit the stake is on a plane with the bottom of the shoe. This forces the point of the shoe down, therefore; the extra, extra heavy heels on the Mr. D. Shoe will force the calks on the bottom of the shoe into the pit. The "dead soft" rating then entices the shoe to drop next to the stake for a point.

Because the heel of the Mr. D. Shoe is so heavy, sometimes the heel that doesn't hit the stake will jerk around the rear of the stake. This causes the other heel, that is now holding onto the pit surface, to hook the stake for a ringer as the shoe turns around the stake.

Shoes with hardened points, that hit the stake in this manner when flipped, have a tendency to jump away from the stake and spin to the rear, out of scoring range.

Shoes with blunt points, or shoes flipped with the slope of the heels going up, makes the top plane of the shoe to be the first part of the heel to hit the stake. This, more apt that not, will cause the shoe to flip over backwards and come to rest several inches from the stake - a lot of times out of scoring range.



your straightedge in order to determine that the shoe encircles the stake". This current NHPA definition of encircling the stake is not correct. Webster's dictionary defines encircle as "to form a circle about". The shim has nothing to do with encircling the stake as the next two examples will show.

A shoe which is around the stake and has both points of the heel calks being touched by a straightedge meets the dictionary definition of 'encircling' the stake, even if the straightedge is touching the 1/64 of an inch center spot on the round stake. Since the straightedge and the stake can not both occupy the same physical space at the same time, the straightedge is therefore outside of the cross sectional area of the stake, thereby completing the connection for the encirclement of the stake by the shoe and straightedge.

A second good example of encircling the stake was submitted by John Bedard last October on the NHPA Website. John wrote "If I put a tight rubber band around the stake and someone asks you if the rubber band encircled the stake you would have to answer yes it does. Even though the rubber band is touching the stake in all directions. No where in the definition of encircle does it mention that a space of any amount has to come between the object and the object encircling it.....The three point touch by definition encircles the stake."

These 2 examples show that the shim requirement is not necessary for a shoe to 'encircle the stake'. This proposed rule change will delete the 'shim requirement' currently required by the current 'NHPA Guidelines For Judges' for determining if a shoe 'encircles the stake'.

2. To redefine 'clear the stake' - Webster's dictionary defines 'clear' as to "go by without touching". During a 'three point touch' measurement less than 1/64 of an inch of the stake surface area actually touches the straightedge because the stake is round. Therefore 99% of the stake already clears the straightedge and conforms to the 'clear the stake' requirement of the second sentence in the ringer rule.

This rule change proposes that this

99% clearance between the straightedge and the stake during a 'three point touch' measurement meets the clearance intent of the ringer rule, and meets it much more than the actual game playing conditions meet the intent of the other NHPA game rules. For example, if an inspection was made of all the official courts that NHPA tournaments are played on, how many courts would be within 1/64 of an inch of meeting the required pitching distances, stake height and stake incline? Probably none, and very few would even be within a 1/4 inch of conforming to the required NHPA playing rules.

Therefore this proposed rule change will accept the 'three point touch' shoe, with its 99% clearance of the stake, as meeting the clearance requirement of the ringer rule just as the actual playing conditions are accepted as meeting the other NHPA playing rules.

3. To simplify ringer measurements - This rule change will eliminate the non-visible one thousand of an inch

clearance requirement between the round stake and the straightedge for a shoe to be called a ringer as required by the current rule and thus make it possible to quickly determine visibly whether a shoe is a ringer. With the proposed rule change a straightedge which rocks on the curved 1/64 of an inch contact surface of the stake is visually easily to recognize as not touching both points of the heel calks at the same time and therefore is not a ringer. Conversely a non-rocking straightedge is easily ruled a ringer.

Leo McGrath, NHPA 1974 Hall of Fame, and former Ohio President for 28 years measured ringers by placing the straightedge on one tip of the shoe and rotated the straightedge down the stake. If the straightedge hit the other side of the shoe it was a ringer - shoes where the straightedge touched both calk points and the stake were called

Continued next page

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ringers. This proposed rule change will mirror Leo McGrath's technique for measuring ringers and thereby provide a clear, simple method to determine if a shoe is a ringer.

CONCLUSION

Now is the time to take the difficulty out of what should be an easy rule to use and understand. This rule change will eliminate the 'shim requirement' for a ringer and finally create harmony between 'encircle the stake' and 'clear the stake'. This rule change will give players a fair and easy method to use when measuring for ringers. Over the years the playing rules have been changed several times for the betterment of the sport, such as when the stakes were raised from 6" to 8" to finally 14" with a 3" incline to allow players to pitch more ringers. This is another good opportunity to simplify the game rules and to improve the sport of horseshoe pitching.

Sincerely,
Michael Kalb
NHPA # 360332

2001 RULE CHANGE PROPOSALS MARCH 4, 2001

1. Rule 1, Section A,1: DIMENSIONS AND MARKS

(a) **DIMENSIONS.** A regulation horseshoe court shall be a level rectangular area 6 feet wide and 46 feet long. Its main parts are the pitcher's box and the pitcher's platforms (at each end). A north-south setting is recommended for outdoor courts.

(b) **MARKS.** Lines or marks will be made at court level on or from the lengthwise centerline of the horseshoe court. For example, a platform mark 30 feet from a stake would be marked on a line perpendicular to the center line at its 30-foot mark.

2. Rule 1, Section A, 2: PITCHERS BOX

The pitcher's box is a square 6 foot by 6 foot area located at each end and wholly within a regulation horseshoe court. The back of each box is 46 feet from the back of the opposite box. Each box is composed of 2 parts, 1, the pit and 2, the pitching platforms.

3. Rule 1 Section A, 2, (b): PITCHING PLATFORMS

The pitcher's platforms flank the pit on its longest sides. They shall be of an equal width ranging from 18 to 20 inches (depending on the width of the pit) and shall be a minimum of 6 feet long.

4. Rule 1, Section A, 8: FOUL LINES

This places them at the 27 and 37-foot marks from the front of the opposite stake. [see Section A,1,b].

5. Rule 1, Section A, 9: IMAGINARY STAKES

Imaginary stakes shall be marked on or midway between the extended platforms at a distance of 30 feet from the opposite stake. They shall be marked on the full distance platforms at a distance of 40 feet from the opposite stake, if the stakes are not 40 feet apart. [see Section A,1,b]

6. Rule 3: CLASSIFICATIONS, AGE REQUIREMENTS, AND PITCHING DISTANCES

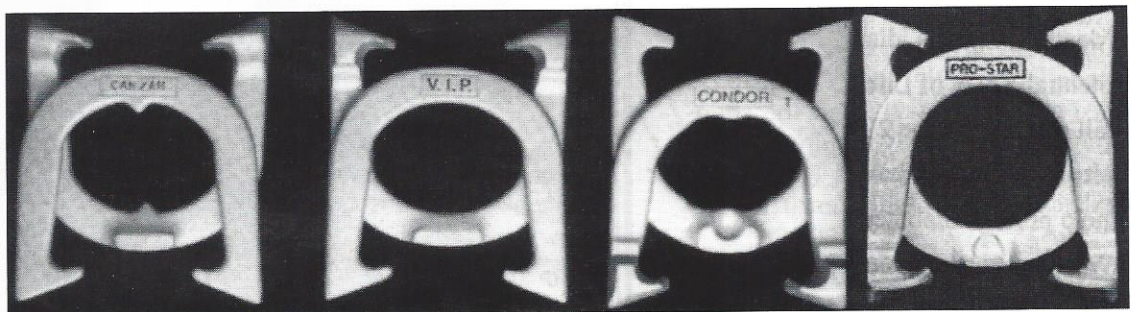
Section A. MALES

1. **JUNIORS.** All males in their 18th year or younger may pitch from any place on the full-distance or extended platforms. They must observe the 27 foot foul lines.
2. **OPEN MEN.** This classification is open to all males (including juniors if they choose to give up their junior

Continued next page

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status) who pitch from the full-distance platform and observe the 37-foot foul lines.

3. **SENIORS.** This classification is open to all males of age 60+ who pitch from the full-distance platform and observe the 37 foot foul lines.
4. **ELDERS.** This classification is open to all males of age 70+ who pitch less than the full distance and observe the 27-foot foul lines. This classification shall also include physically impaired males of any age who have been given permission by the governing NHPA officials to move to the extended platform and observe the 27-foot foul lines.

Section B. FEMALES

All females (including physically impaired) may pitch from any place on the full-distance or the extended platform and shall observe the 27 foot foul lines.

A female in the year of her eighteenth birthday (or younger) may be classified as a Junior Girl, if she so desires, just as any female of age 60+ may be classified as a Senior Woman. All other females are classified as Open Women. In tournaments where mixed gender classifications are played, any female who pitches in the Elders class must pitch less than the full distance.

NOTE: Contestants who observe the 27-foot foul line are called short-distance pitchers.

7. Rule 3 Section A,1: JUNIORS

Junior contestants may pitch from any place on either the full-distance or the extended platforms. Juniors may pitch from 20 feet until the end of the year following their eleventh birthday. They must observe 17-foot foul lines. The Juniors above that age must observe the 27-foot foul lines.

8. Rule 3 Section A, 2: OPEN MEN AND SENIORS (THIS WILL NOT APPLY IF 6 PASSES)

All Open Men and Senior contestants shall observe the 37-foot foul lines.

9. Rule 6, Section B, 1: RINGER

A ringer is a shoe, which comes to rest encircling the stake. A straightedge touching both points or any part of the heel calks of the shoe must clear (OR touch) the stake in order for the shoe to be declared a ringer. A ringer has a value of three points.

10. Rule 6, Section H, 3: FOUL SHOE

A contestant's shoe shall be called foul if they move any possible scoring shoe before the scoring of an inning is in agreement. Additionally, if the pitcher making the illegal move also moves an opponent's shoe(s) within the scoring area, they shall pitch only one shoe in the next inning. If scoring for the inning cannot be agreed upon, a judge will be called to determine the scoring. Only the judge may assess the one shoe penalty for the next inning.

11. Rule 7, Section 2: LENGTH OF GAME

Change last sentence to read: If the score is tied, there are three options.

Add C. A sudden death tiebreaker may be played, using the same method of play that was used in the game. The player earning first pitch in the last inning of regulation play shall have the first pitch to begin the tie-breaker. The first player to score shall be declared the winner.

12. Rule 10: DOUBLES PLAY

In doubles play, two contestants are partners against another team of two contestants. One contestant from each team shall be at each end of the court and the contestants shall be matched by the tournament officials so that the highest percentage contestants shall be at the same end. The tournament committee shall determine the length of game and type of play. Scoring shall be done on a scoresheet that clearly shows the ringers and shoes for each contestant. The highest percentage players shall start the game. All scoring, and the determination of who pitches first in each frame, shall be based on the rules of singles play. (If a shoe limit game is pitched, the number of shoes shall be divisible by four so that all contestants pitch the same amount of shoes). When contestants are pitching their shoes, the contestants at the other end shall be well behind and to the side of the pitcher's box and in a stationary position so as not to disturb the contestants in their own, or adjacent, court.

SECTION A: REGULAR DOUBLES

In regular doubles, each team uses one pair of shoes and the contestants stay at the same end of the court for the entire game. The highest percentage contestant begins the game. Their partners, at the other end, shall decide, call the score, retrieve the shoes, and pitch them back. The same procedure is repeated until the point or shoe total for the game is reached.

SECTION B: WALKING DOUBLES

All contestants use their own shoes; the highest percentage contestant begins the game. Their partners, at the other end, shall decide, call the score, then pitch their own shoes. The score for those shoes shall be decided and called by the contestants with the higher percentage. All four contestants shall walk to the opposite ends and retrieve their shoes. After the shoes are retrieved, the same process shall be repeated (with the highest percentage contestant always pitching first) until the point limit or shoe total for the game is reached.

Rule 13, Section A, 5: TOURNAMENT & SANCTIONED LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION

Add statement; Arrange for scorekeepers for each court and for their remuneration or have players keep their own score if scorekeepers are not available.

THE NHPA HAS VOTED AND RULED ON THE FOLLOWING:

During all NHPA sanctioned events scorekeeping must adhere to the Official Rules of Horseshoe Pitching. All games must be scored as described in Rule 8. No other method will be recognized as official including the method of giving one point per pitcher on a four dead.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S **REPORT** by Allen Baptist

NOTICE TO REGIONAL DIRECTORS

I have been getting some requests for tournament schedules around the country. There are quite a few schedules that I haven't received. I realize that some schedules haven't been put together, yet, but I would appreciate you sending them to me as soon as you can. I would like for all RD's planning to attend the World Tournament this year to contact me after you receive your pitching schedule and let me know when you are available to help with the shoe checks.

FROM THE MAIL BAG

KEVIN SNELGROVE, VIRGINIA RD - reports that he has been working with the city of Chesapeake to build new horseshoe courts and also to start a club there. He has sent out letters to members of an old club in town to organize a meeting with them. Kevin says that there are three possible sites in which to build the new courts.

MYRTLE MAY KAMOKU, HAWAII RD - reports that they have built 16 new courts on the island of Oahu. Originally, they were going to construct 12 courts, but there has been so much interest that they added four more courts. Myrtle also states that they are looking forward to a great horseshoe season in 2001.

RONNIE FREDERICK, OKLAHOMA RD - reports that they have had two first-time tournaments in Sand Springs and Broken Bow. Ronnie says that the

Ardmore Club has changed their goal of hosting a World Tournament from 2003 to 2004. Oklahoma has 33 sanctioned tournaments planned for 2001, which is by far the most they have ever had!

JIM SHILLING, INDIANA RD - reports that Indiana has 54 tournaments scheduled for the 2001. Jim is pleased to announce that the Curt Day Courts in Frankfort are being rejuvenated. The courts will be hosting two tournaments this year, one in June and the other in September.

DON WEAVER, NEVADA RD - reports that they have 15 tournaments scheduled for 2001. In April, Don hosts the "April No Fools Open" which is a non-sanctioned tournament in which a NHPA member must bring a non-member to pitch with. This a great idea to build NHPA membership!

RANDY ARCHER, ARKANSAS RD - reports that he has been receiving calls from prospective members asking for information and former members interested in re-joining the NHPA. The Mountain Home Horseshoe Pitchers Club is in the process of sanctioning a league for the first time. Randy says that this will spark even more interest in the area for their charter. Randy has received a lot of inquiries via the Arkansas web-site concerning horseshoe pitching.

WAYNE ROOPE, NORTH CAROLINA RD - reports that 12 new courts have been constructed near Crowder

Mountain in Gaston County. The courts built by the Gaston County Parks and Recreation Department are complete with full concrete walkways, lights and blue clay. They are planning to start a Sanctioned League and also hold a couple of Sanctioned Tournaments next year. The Recreation Department is considering adding 12 more courts to the facility in the near future.

PAT BACUS, WYOMING RD - reports that the city of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County have completed 16 fenced-in courts, with concrete walkways and excellent lighting. The State Tournament was held on these courts this year. For those who travel 100 to 350 miles to a tournament, with gas prices and motel rates so high, it has been very difficult for many people to attend as many tournaments as they would like.

ED QUIGLEY, NEW JERSEY RD - reports, that out of 15 winter tournaments scheduled at the Harmony Hut, only one was cancelled. It takes alot of snow to cancel an indoor tournament! Ed states that Anne Marie MacIntyre is the first woman to be inducted into the NJSHPA Hall of Fame. New Jersey has scheduled 30 sanctioned events this summer, including 3 money tournaments. The New Jersey State Championships will be pitched in mid September at the Upgraded Middlesex courts, the site of the 1971 World Tournament.

NHPA INTERNET **WEBSITE** www.horseshoepitching.com

by Paul Stewart

Wow! How time flies in the world of horseshoe pitching. It's almost World Tournament time again and the NHPA Website crew is focusing on building you a "Live" website designed to bring the 2001 Hibbing, Minnesota World Tournament home to you that are unable to attend and for those that can only attend either the first week or the second week.

I can remember when it used to take weeks to find out who won the World Tournament. Thanks to modern technology, the internet, and the NHPA website you can now see the daily

results after each shift almost as soon as the people attending the tournament see them.

It is our goal to provide you with more detailed tournament results and better quality pictures of Class groups and also more action shots from the courts. Several of us have up-dated our photo equipment since last year and this should result in better quality pictures for the website. Look sharp and throw ringers, you might be the one we take a snap-shot of for the court action shots.

We are now planning to post a score sheet of a "Game of the Day" each day.

This will be a game that we deem as a close and interesting game for the day. When the Championship rounds roll around, we are sure you will want to see how the World Champions are pitching and will probably use one of their better games each day to post as "Game of the Day." Or, if I would luck up and win a game that would be a "Game of the Day" or perhaps the "Game of the Week." (Smile)

We will post the Email address for the World Tournament NHPA Website and Publicity Desk on the NHPA website after we arrive in Hibbing on July 29, 2001.

Horseshoe Pitching on Wheels

by Bob Dunn

Promotion efforts vary from area to area – generally you do what is possible and within the boundaries of the resources available. The Iowa Hawkeye Horseshoe Pitchers' Association has a fascinating project this past summer, and one that will continue into this coming summer and many more hopefully. The IHHPA constructed a parade float that has a pitching court and players in action as the float participates in a variety of parades and celebrations. There is a brief write-up and pictures on the IHHPA's webpage. IHHPA president, Bob Walters, has provided this interesting article of the process of this great project:

By IHHPA President Bob Walters

A couple of years ago, as Russ Martin, IHHPA Secretary/Treasurer, and I were traveling to a tournament, the idea of making a float with a horseshoe court and 'pitching on the go' to promote the sport was discussed. That's as far as the discussion went – idea never left the car, so the idea died.

At the January 2000 Executive Board meeting, the idea came back to life and we asked if there would be interest in having an entry in the Iowa State Fair Parade as it had been years since our last entry.

After discussion it was decided we would have a float. Nobody was in charge, but about ten days after our meeting, we got word from Dick Walker that he found an old abandoned house trailer and he figured he could take the flatbed and make it into something that could be pulled behind a pick-up. It would have a set of courts on it and fellows (and gals) pitched shoes on the move.

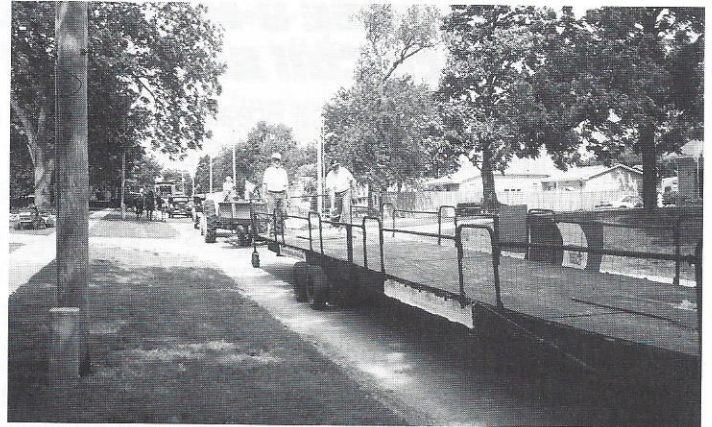
Dick Walker is our 1st Vice President and a retired farmer and a retired welder from John Deere at Ankeny. He is a person who once he sets his mind to something, there is no turning back! He welded a new floor on the steel frame, added another ten feet to the back and came out with a 7' x 48' frame. He used quite a few old farrowing crates as he no longer raised pigs. He welded panels along the sides so no shoes would get off the float.

We had a crew to build the pits, but most of that plan had been thought out by Dick, so he suggested how it could be done. The plan including adding two rear wheels which allows us to go through small low spots in the street without tossing the players off the float.

The first outing was at Dick's hometown celebration in Cambridge. We all arrived early with banners, the Iowa State Horseshoe Flag and small flags to decorate the corners. Bob McKee and Russ Martin did the pitching on this first outing, while Marian McKee and I passed out fliers about the game of horseshoes and rules brochures. One lady in the audience said, "Oh good! Now my husband can't cheat on me!" A very enjoyable outing.

Our next parade was in the town of Gladbrook, Iowa. This is the home of the Corn Day's Festival. Gladbrook always has a large following of people who come back to their hometown for this annual summer celebration.

We had a good crew to help decorate the float with banners, flags, etc. Helping with this were Russ and Izzy Martin, Gordon and Betty Eklund, Bob and Marian McKee, and Bob and Faithe Walters. Harold and Lois Garner, 4th Vice



Getting ready for first parade. Russ Martin and Bob McKee pitching.

President and Statistician, drove the rig across town while Dick Walker was on the microphone in the back of the pick-up. He did an outstanding job of going over the aspects of the game, what it can do for the average player in keeping one healthy, both physically and mentally, and that there is a great group of clean-living people playing the game. Dennis and Barb Smith from Gladbrook, handed out copies of the rules and brochures of how the game is to be played.

This was a long parade with over 90 entries and our float came away with a third place prize of \$50.

Our next parade was in Eldora for the Hardin County Fair. Again we had players coming to help and to walk along the parade route passing out literature.

When we go to a town for a parade, we always try to get there early so we can decorate and then have time for a bit of relaxation with picnic-like snacks and beverages.

Another parade was at Maxwell, Iowa. This is the hometown of the late Cliff Kenney. He was a great promoter and humorist. This turned out to be one of the largest tournaments in the summer of 2000.

Our final parade was the Iowa State Fair Parade in Des Moines, Iowa. We gathered at the State Capitol where we picked up two large banners. They were 24' x 20' long with IOWA HAWKEYE HORSESHOE PITCHERS' ASSOCIATION printed on them. The enthusiasm of the crowd made me think people were unaware we had an organization.

Dick Walters was on the microphone again, talking all along the route. Thousands of spectators lined the streets. Two of the players performing on the float were James Fortune, Iowa Junior State Champion, and Lois Garner, a grandmother who showed the crowd that she could pitch ringers. There was a roar from the crowd in front of the judges stand when Lois put on two ringers and 15 year old James Fortune put two more ringers on top, all while on the move. It was a great display of Iowa Horseshoes in action. Russ Martin and I completed the class of walking doubles.

Along about the middle of September, members were talking that Dick Walker needed to be reimbursed for money and time spent pulling the rig to different parades.

Continued on page 18

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NHPA

In Place of Forfeits

Submitted by Dick Belcher of
the Dan Patch Club, MN.

Ever since our league was formed, more than twenty years ago, the use of forfeits has bugged me. The fact that a team will pick up, in our case, four easy points and in a way penalize the rest of the league just hasn't set well over the years. There are suggestions in the Red Book to avoid forfeits but we have never adopted them because what is there to determine their fairness?

About five weeks into last season, I as league director, suggested we go to a winning percentage standings, much like the baseball leagues provide because of differences in total games played by each of the teams. Standings would be determined by actual games pitched and eliminate forfeits. The formula, of course, is to divide the number of wins by the number of games pitched. Example: 24 wins divided by 48 games equals a winning percentage of .500. The procedure was adopted and used through the last two rounds of the season. Everyone seemed to agree it was a fairer way to determine the standings than using forfeits.

Our league will continue to encourage pitchers to get subs when needed and will be watchful for any manipulation of this system to the advantage of any team.

There is no suggestions in the Red Book related to determine standings in this way but feel there should be. Present this idea as a solution to the problem other leagues may have in using forfeits.

Is this a good procedure? Or are there flaws that I don't see? Has it been used in other horseshoe leagues with success? If anyone has comments on this way of eliminating forfeits please e-mail me at BelcherLoDi@aol.com

Sixty-five years of Horseshoes in Erie, Pennsylvania

Horseshoe pitching has a long and eventful history in Erie Pennsylvania. Five generations of my family have now actively participated in our local horseshoe club and in this great sport. My great grandfather, Sam White, who, in his youth, threw horseshoes for fun in his hometown of Franklin, PA, came to Erie in the early 1900's and started a tradition that is still going strong today. His influence in the game went way beyond his own family. His efforts and those of his son, Francis, were an integral part of the development of organized horseshoe pitching in Erie. There were many people who also strongly contributed over the years, but Sam and Francis, especially in the early years, were the driving forces behind the club. We consider the official formation of our club as being the year 1936. Horseshoe pitching existed in Erie long before that, but the formation of the Erie Horseshoe Pitcher's Club in 1936, marks the beginning of well-organized leagues and sanctioned tournaments.

In his day, Sam White was a top player in northwestern Pennsylvania. He won the Erie County Championships numerous times including three consecutive years (1928, 29 & 30). The late 1920's and the 1930's were the prime years of his pitching prowess. He competed in many local leagues and also many sanctioned tournaments throughout Pennsylvania, Ohio and New York. This went as far back as the mid '20's and continued throughout the 1930's and early 1940's. He consistently pitched about sixty percent throughout that time, which made him a very formidable player, especially in those early years-- not many were pitching like that back then. Until about 1934, he was the guy to beat in Erie. Once his sons, Francis and Clarence, began pitching, they eventually surpassed him along with a few other local top pitchers who could all reach and sometimes exceed the seventy percent mark-- Fran Connor, Vince Sitter, Glen Sebring and Paul Hewitt to name a few.

Sam was able to take advantage of his position as a prominent player and become a great promoter and organizer of the game in Erie. In the late 1920's and early 1930's, there were many leagues scattered all throughout the city. Here and there, there were horseshoe courts-- usually not more than four in one place. Sam and sons had their own setup. They had built a couple of courts off a back alley near their home on the upper west side of town. It was situated underneath a large, lit billboard which provided great lighting for night time pitching. It was one of the few places where you could pitch after dark. Therefore, it quickly became a favorite hangout for horseshoe addicts from all over the area. They mostly had pick-up games there on a nightly basis.

Sam quickly became acquainted with players from many of the different leagues outside of his own league-- the Erie Horseshoe League, which played on the courts in Glenwood, a residential and park area that was, back then, on the southern edge of the city. Sam began organizing inter-league competitions all over town. This was a new idea--mostly, the leagues kept to themselves. But soon enough, this was catch-

ing on. He got many businesses to sponsor teams in these leagues and was also able to make good contacts at both Erie Newspapers (the Times News and the Dispatch Herald), getting great coverage on a weekly basis, as is evident by the amount of clippings in his scrap books. He eventually managed to get the newspapers to begin sponsoring tournaments, leagues and also players traveling to far off tournaments. The newspapers played a key role in the development of horseshoes in Erie.

As the popularity of horseshoes grew, Sam began arranging for top players to come to Erie and put on exhibitions. In his earlier travels to tournaments, he had become personal friends with most all of the top players such as Frank Jackson, Frank's son Carrol (the trick shooter), Putt Mossman, Ted Allen and many others. He was able to have all of those mentioned, and others, come to Erie and put on shows in front of hundreds of spectators. Often, he would arrange a match between our reigning Erie County Champion and one of these players. In many instances, this ended up being a match between his son, Francis, and a top player like Ted Allen. These exhibitions really established Erie as a stronghold in the game of horseshoes. The top players and trick shot artists were excited to come here because they were guaranteed to perform before a big, enthusiastic crowd.

As big of a horseshoe pitching town as Erie had become, it still lacked a large pitching facility. The four court setup in Glenwood Park was hardly adequate for any large scale events. The Erie Horseshoe League had grown in size and was outgrowing these courts as well. The league had hosted small sanctioned tournaments and now wanted to hold the Pennsylvania State tournament for the following year of 1936.

Sam White had always invited public officials and local dignitaries to his promotional events and over the years, had made many influential contacts within the city. Many of these people developed a real fondness for the game and were strong supporters when the newly formed Erie Horseshoe Pitchers' Club, under the leadership of Paul Hewitt, petitioned the city to build 20 horseshoe courts in one location. The city was agreeable to the idea. A vacant site (across from the ball diamond in Glenwood) was chosen and the public courts were built. The 1936 W-PA State Tournament was a success in Erie, and the Erie Horseshoe Pitchers' Club was going strong. Those courts later became the site of the 1969 World Horseshoe Tournament-- known as one of the most memorable tournaments ever. Every night, for the duration of the championship pitching in '69, crowds of thousands gathered to watch. Sixty-five years after their construction, those courts are still there, having hosted many championships at the local, state and national level. Without Sam White, it is unlikely that any of this would have ever happened.

Continued in the next issue of Newsline



Junior News

by Heidi Sternberg

Believe It: NHPA Junior Trust Funds

Believe it or not: The NHPA has paid out over \$38,500 in Junior Trust Funds in the past 14 years! So, you are wondering who gets these funds? With help from Dave Loucks, I will discuss the history and the purpose of the trust funds.

It was the year 2000 that topped the charts, paying out a total of \$7,578.11 to its 9 recipients, but nobody has beaten Jim Walters who was given over \$2700 in 1994. There are two types of trust funds awarded to junior participants: 1.) in the NHPA World Tournament and 2.) the Junior Scholar Award is given to juniors who pitch in sanction leagues and maintain a high grade point average. (for more information on the Junior Scholar Award please refer to the NHPA Red Book)

In the beginning, those that had earned the awards were given scholarships, which meant that in order for them to receive the award they had to attend college. In 1986, Dave Loucks changed the scholarships to trust funds which are now given upon request from the recipients after their 18th birthday whether or not they decide to continue their education after high school. The first trust payment was paid out to Tony Hankins in the amount of \$355.99. Since then, the NHPA has paid out 56 other trust funds ranging in amounts from \$206-\$2700.

The Junior Scholar Award never got much publicity until last year when Lorraine Sternberg, my mother, and I brought the award to the participants' attention in the league sanction meeting held every year at the World Tournament. Much to our satisfaction, last year we received over 20 applications for the award, the most it has ever seen! Six were

awarded the trust fund, the recipients are picked by the NHPA council every year. Amounts range every year and can be from \$200-\$400. I am hoping to see this many applications in the years to come!

The World Tournament awards have frequently changed over the years. From 1983-1985, scholarships were given out to the top Boy and Girl in the Championship class. This changed in 1986 to be a trust fund, but the recipients remained the same. In the years that followed, more trust funds were added to each division. In 1987-1989, awards were given to the top 2 in the Boys and Girls Championship division. 1990-1993 saw the top 3 in each championship division awarded trust funds. 1994 it was bumped to the top 4 and since then a trust fund has been given to every junior participant in the World Tournament Boys and Girls Championship class. Amounts for the World Tournament trust funds also change frequently; to give you an idea as to the amount, I was awarded \$500 as the Jr. Girls World Champion.

I encourage everyone to make sure that former and future junior pitchers are aware of these great opportunities to receive a junior trust fund. Along with the Wisconsin Scholarship awards I earned, the NHPA trust fund helped put me through 3 years of college!

On another note: The Jr. Pamphlets are done and ready to be sent out! Anyone looking for some copies please contact Dick Hansen or myself! These were designed to inform people of the NHPA and junior pitching. Please distribute these at local tournaments, schools, and your community's recreation department. Get involved!

DAVE'S COURT REPORT *Continued from page 4*

but they could not meet the financial requirements. Throughout the years, no single individual known to the NHPA has developed more newspaper coverage and State political support for our sport than Mr. Bunner. His latest project is campaigning for a Commemorative Postal Stamp to recognize organized horseshoe pitching (Page 28). Letters from Charles to various authorities including President Bush, Senator Fred Thompson and WV Governor Bob Wise has opened, if just a crack, a few doors. We now need to assist Charles in this effort by flooding the Postal Service with signed letters showing our support for this effort. A form letter for this purpose has been developed and

is available for individual use or re-prints in charter newsletters. A copy can be found elsewhere in this issue. (Page 28)

2003 WORLD TOURNAMENT

While correspondence was exchanged with representatives from Oklahoma, Alabama and Hawaii who said they wanted to bid for the 2003 World Tournament, in the end, only one bid was received. It was from Eau Claire, Wisconsin. The bid meets the criteria and is totally supported by the Wisconsin HPA. As such, it should be little more than a formality for the delegates in Hibbing to confirm Eau Claire as the 2003 Host.

THE HORSESHOE TRADER

Old Ohio Ads

by Bob Dunn

This issue's featured old rules brochures have particular significance in the long line of Ohio horseshoes. The Ohio Horseshoe Company began manufacturing pitching shoes in 1921. The initial shoes made had little resemblance to our modern-day models and there was an evolution of many changes in the design over the first two decades.

However from 1936 on there was little change in the Ohio shoe right up to the 1990's and the final production. That is except for the Jackson Model produced in 1937. The advertising suggests that Frank Jackson, one of the all-time great world champions, designed the shoe himself, which is rather questionable. This specific model is extremely different Jackson Model from any other model produced by the Ohio Horseshoe Company during its entire 70 plus years in existence. The shoe must not have been popular with the pitchers of the day, as this is a rare shoe and no advertising has ever been found. The shoe was not even mentioned in the HORSESHOE WORLD magazines, which pictured all the pitchers' top favorite tournament shoes. So if it wasn't for this brochure, graciously provided by Dutch Swartz (Florida), we actually would not even be aware of its previous existence.

The 1939 Ohio brochure and the shoe pictured, show the similarity of the Ohio "O" for nearly 6 decades. The 1939 model 1939 OHIO must have been a popular year as collectors commonly come across Ohio's bearing that date. In fact, a couple of years ago a pair of 1939 Ohio's once owned and pitched by George May were donated to our NHPA Hall of Fame collection.

TRADER JOTTINGS

• Thanks to Herb McCoskey for forwarding a pair of old brandless Chicago Steel Foundry shoes. The shoes were previously owned by Gene Mendenhall, Noblesville, IN, and are being donated to the NHPA Hall of Fame Collection by his widow Phyllis. Thank you to both.

• Here is a request to any one who has an old rules brochure. Please have a

photo-copy made and forward the copy to this writer. We can use every resource in our research and just maybe your brochure will be featured in one of our next articles.



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 x \$42.50= _____ L
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Six Pac Sure Point Weights

 No. of Pairs _____
 x \$42.50= _____ L
 (at 6 pairs or more) M
 x \$36.50= _____ H

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 x \$42.50= _____ L
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MUSIC CITY TOURNAMENT

New Melle – Music City Match Up

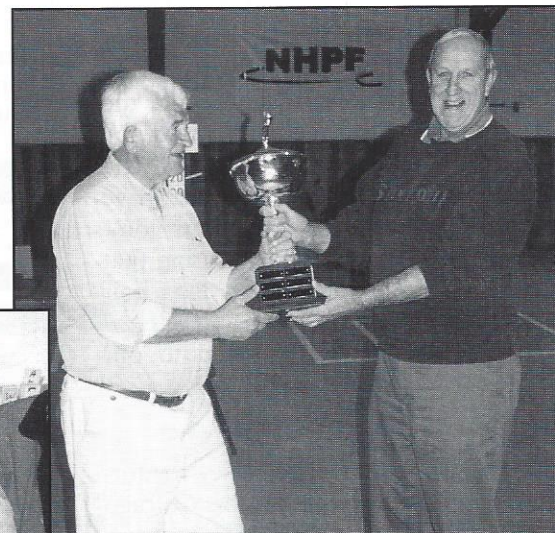
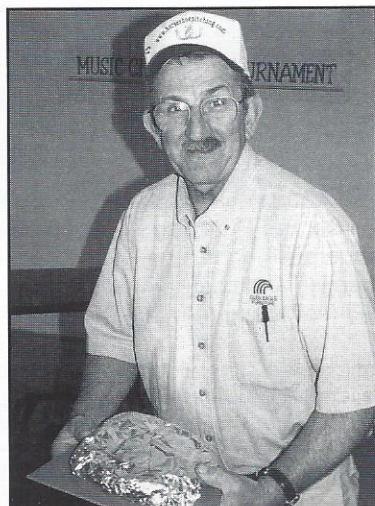
The weather was beautiful in Tennessee the weekend of March 10–11 and the sun was shining favorably on Music City as the eighth match up between the New Melle Horseshoe Club, Missouri, and the Music City Horseshoe Club began. Thirty-five pitchers and others from New Melle began arriving by mid-afternoon on Friday, March 9. Rich Altis and Joe Faron handled the arrangements from Missouri while Jack Freeman and Mary Bastian worked out the details in Tennessee.

The format for this tournament works very well. Games are 50 shoes cancellation and ties remain ties. A committee makes match ups between players in the classes and wins/losses are recorded for those designated pitchers and then tallied for the flight. The first flight Saturday morning was made up of five-person classes. Five 6-person classes also made up the second flight on Saturday afternoon. Twenty-eight pitchers continued play on Sunday morning under a different sanction number. Music City was ahead after the first flight and carried that lead to a winning victory of 68.5 points to New Melle's 65.5. The date and score will be engraved on a plaque and attached to the large trophy that will stay in Tennessee for the second year in a row.

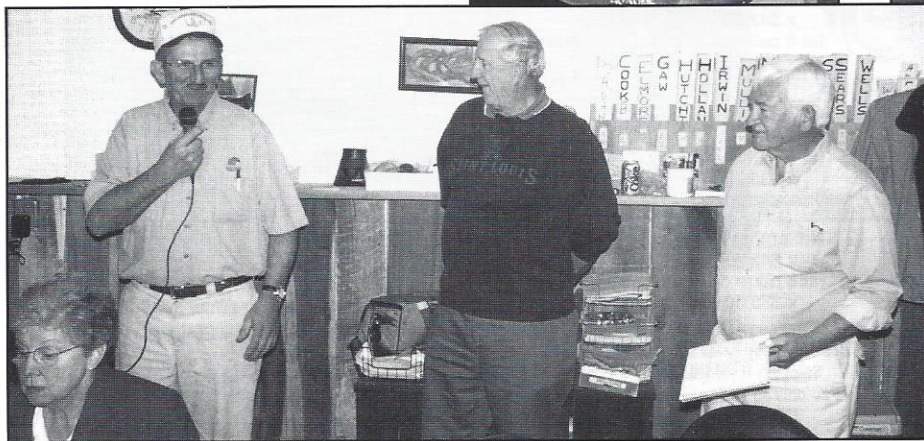
New Melle had 35 pitchers present. Music City had 25 pitchers from Tennessee, Alabama, Indiana, Kentucky, North Carolina and Wisconsin. Total pay-back was \$880 with first places paying \$35 and second places \$25.

Many people helped to make this tournament a success. All the pitchers and the spectators seem to really enjoy this tournament. Special thanks to all the score keepers, Bobby Cook, the official MCHC photographer, Roy Evans who signed in the pitchers and took their money, and Frances Dickerson and Paulette Hansen who collected score sheets. Sandwiches, chips, and cookies were available on Saturday and Sunday. The group ate grilled chicken, green beans, au gratin

Paul Stewart.



Jack Freeman and Joe Faron.



Left to right: Paul Stewart, Joe Faron, Jack Freeman, and in lower left corner, Mary Bastian.

potatoes, rolls and chocolate pudding dessert. Liz Page of Catering to Order catered the food both days.

Jack Freeman had this to say about the weekend: "First of all, I would like to report that the New Melle bunch knows how to enjoy having dinner out. Laura and I were allowed to join them at Shadow Brook, another good place to eat in Joelton. A representative with the New Melle pitchers gave an account of his trip the year before; they played games such as Bingo and marked the bus tires with numbers. The person, who owned the number closest to the ground when the bus stopped, won the prize (money).

After the dinner, just about everyone received a "surprise" package most of which had to be opened in front of everyone. Mine was a nice brown paper bag. I got a flashy pair of purple paisley boxer shorts, which I had to try on, and Laura received a "choice" set of toothbrushes. It was great fun socializing with all the New Melle group and the tournament went well, too.

We (Music City) got lucky and won the tournament by the score of 68.5 to 65.5. Thanks to all who participated in this tournament, both those from Missouri and those who represented Music City. Paul Stewart was here and pitched for Music City, as did Dick Hansen. Thanks especially to Mary Ella Bastian who worked many hours setting up this tournament and taking care of all the necessary communication.

Anyone interested in pitching next year in this tournament, held usually the second weekend in March, should contact Mary Ella or me. We will be glad to sign up pitchers of all percentages. Come pitch with us!

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Tennessee Indoor State Championship Tournament

WC-1-Maxine Griffith 4-0, 77.50; 2-Marlene Ray 2-2, 70.50; 3-Lou Murphy 0-4, 50.0.

MC-1-Jack Conner 6-1, 61.56; 2-E.T. Hensley 5-2, 57.19; 3-Elmo Cox 4-2, 65.33. **B-1**-Paula Hunsicker 6-1, 46.56; 2-Walter Sexton 5-2, 40.94; 3-Harold Morgan 4-2, 48.00.

C-1-Willard Williams 5-1, 30.67; 2-Robert Dennis 4-2 23.67; 3-Dennis Zawierucha 4-2, 23.67.

WORDMATCH PUZZLE

by Don Lawyer

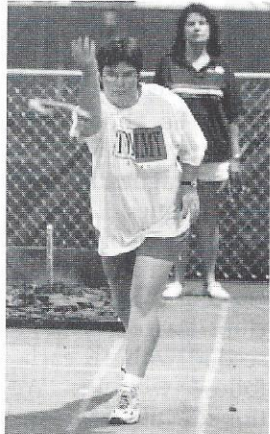
M	T	H	I	R	T	Y	F	O	O	T	E	R	A	C	G
E	O	W	D	A	E	D	O	N	E	D	T	L	O	S	E
A	P	R	O	K	A	Q	U	E	L	M	A	P	D	I	R
S	L	I	D	E	M	D	R	T	W	C	T	X	T	X	O
U	A	B	O	X	N	H	N	A	P	O	S	T	A	P	C
R	Y	T	U	E	T	E	L	B	O	U	N	C	E	A	S
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B	F	O	U	R	T	Y	F	E	E	T	H	R	O	W	L
S	K	I	L	L	W	O	R	L	D	T	U	R	N	Y	C

BACKBOARD	LUCK	SIX PACK
BEND	MEASUREMENT	SKILL
BOUNCE	NHPA	SLIDE
BOX	ONE	STATE
CHAMPIONSHIP	PEG	TEAM
CLAY	PERCENT	THIRTY FOOTER
CLOSE	PITCH	THREE
COURT	PITT	THROW
DEAD	PLAYERS	TIE
DOUBLE	POINT	TOOL
FLIP	POST	TOPPED
FOUL	PRACTICE	TOURNAMENT
FOUR	RAKE	TROPHY
FOURTY FEET	RINGER	TURN
HORSESHOE	SAND	TWO
LEAGUE	SCORE	WALK
LEANER	SHOVEL	WIN
LOSE	SINGLE	WORLD TURNY

Wordmatch Puzzle answer on page 22

TIPS FROM THE CHAMPIONS

Second of a 3-part series
by Sylvianne Moisan,
2000 Womens WC



Many years ago, my husband had a conversation with a bridge player who told him he believed four factors contribute to be successful in anything: aptitudes, environment, coaching or teaching, and training (practice). After describing you the favorable and stimulating environment I got, this second part will now cover the training and my preparation for tournaments.

SHOES AND GRIP: So I began as a flip pitcher throwing Gordons, and switched to the turn and a quarter at the end of 1984. After using Allens for one year, I adopted the Deadeye E-Z Grip (2 pounds 8 ounces) and have used them ever since. A pair will usually last me about from one to two years. Of particular note is the fact that I usually use only one pair - the same pair- in practice and competition. I know some players use two pairs in order not to be caught off guard in case they break a shoe. It is probably a wise decision, but however I prefer to use only one pair in order to get a continuous and constant feel of the shoe. I've been lucky enough to rarely break a shoe... Stability (same grip, same shoes since 1985), when it works, brings dividends.

PRACTICE: Though I never liked to practice, I did train more in the summers of 1983 and 1984, almost every day. It was also during those years that my mother had an indoor court built inside a « greenhouse ». While Quebec weather permitted us to pitch only four months, we now could pitch, about once a week, all year long. That winter practice, though reduced compared to summer, certainly helped me a lot. Even during the following summers I maintained that ratio of practice: once or twice a week. An important detail about the practice is that I rarely threw alone. Practice consisted of warm-up pitches, about 15 minutes, followed by games with my mother or my husband. Sometimes we would also pitch three-hand games. We added a particular rule by giving 4 points to the person throwing last and covering a four-dead with his two shoes, for six ringers out of 6 shoes on the peg. Regular games were 30 or 40 points. Though I lost most games in practice I feel those sessions were of high quality. I believe that throwing with one or two persons allows to get used to the "game rhythm" where you have to wait for your opponent to throw his or her shoes. Clay courts are rare in Quebec, but since 1992, I can practice on a clay court we built at home... I should add that my two and a half year-old daughter, Sandra, is part of my practice sessions now. To sum it up:

- Practice quality is more important than quantity

Continued on page 23

ENTRY FORM

National Horseshoe Pitchers Association
World Horseshoe Pitching Championships
July 30th - August 11th 2001
Hibbing, Minnesota

Registration Fees:
Adults \$100.00
Juniors \$25.00
Pitching Schedules
will be mailed to all
contestants by June 15th
to the address you have
listed on this form.

Entry Deadline May 17th 2001

NAME _____ 2001 NHPA Card # _____
(please print) First Last (or Canadian)

ADDRESS _____ SS # _____ (US ONLY)

CITY _____ STATE/PROV _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____

Telephone: Home # _____ Work # _____ Date of Birth _____

Circle the division you are entering - You can enter only one division (See notes near bottom of page)

OPEN MEN 40' SENIOR MEN 40' OPEN WOMEN ELDERS JUNIOR BOYS 30' JUNIOR GIRLS SENIOR WOMEN

I believe my current average is approx _____% Your Local Newspaper _____

PARTICIPANTS LIABILITY RELEASE: In consideration of participating in such activity, I hereby waive, release and forever discharge the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association, all officers, employees, agents and servants of the afore stated organization, and all fellow participants of this event, for any and all action, cause of action, damage, loss or injury, which I may suffer as a consequence of participating in the World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament.

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

----- cut line -----

We reserve the right to disallow your participation if we discover errors on this form or if your records don't appear in NatStats, CanStats, or false or misleading information is on this form.

MAIL THIS FORM with REGISTRATION FEES (PAYABLE TO NHPA)

TO: NHPA
3085 76th St
Franksville WI 53126

Direct Telephone Inquiries to:
Dick Hansen NHPA Sect/Treas
262-835-9108

All Entries must be on this form and mailed with a postmark no later than MAY 17th 2001. Entries received with a postmark after May 17th shall be put on a waiting list and pay an additional 20% penalty if later accepted into this event. NATSTATS/CANSTATS files must substantiate that you have pitched a minimum of four (4) sanctioned events in the preceding twelve (12) months, at your divisions pitching distance, prior to May 17th 2001, which is the last date NATSTATS will accept results to determine entering averages. Only one (1) event is required for Juniors. Participants will be required to show their 2001 NHPA or CANADIAN membership card when checking in to pitch.

REGISTRATION FEES: ALL ADULTS -- \$100.00
CANADIAN ENTRIES USE MONEY ORDERS
NO REFUNDS AFTER MAY 31, 2001

ALL JUNIORS -- \$25.00 U.S. FUNDS ONLY
REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES SCORE KEEPING FEES

You may enter at anytime prior to MAY 17th. All averages used will be the average on record in NATSTATS/CANSTATS on MAY 17, 2001

READ CAREFULLY: Any adult male pitching from the full distance platform may enter the OPEN MEN'S DIVISION regardless of age, just as any adult female may enter the OPEN WOMEN'S DIVISION. To enter the SENIOR DIVISION, you must be 60 years or older as of July 29, 2001. Any individual 70 years or older or physically impaired person of any age, all of which must pitch from less than the full distance platform, may enter the ELDERS DIVISION. JUNIOR DIVISION entrants must be 18 years old or less for the entire 2001 calendar year.

INCLUDE a self addressed - stamped envelope if you would like confirmation your entry was received and a copy of your current average. This will be sent to you by NatStats. Canadian entries must send 50 cents US for this service. No Canadian stamps please.
The pitching schedule will be finalized by June 1st and will be mailed to the address you have listed above within 15 days.

SANCTIONED CLUB/LEAGUE NEWS by Lorraine Sternberg

The one question that I am asked the most or so it seems, is How many sanctioned clubs and leagues are there? So I thought I would put out this report.

At the end of December 31st of 2000 we now have 231 sanctioned clubs/leagues, this includes junior only leagues. There are 12 junior only leagues. North Dakota having the most with four. Minnesota leads the United States with 28 sanctioned clubs/leagues. Ohio and Texas tie for second with 16 each, while Missouri follows with 15. We have no sanctioned clubs or leagues in the following states: Alabama, Arizona, Delaware, Maine, Montana, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina or Washington. So if there is any one from these states that would like to get one started, I would be glad to hear from you. We had a total of 27 new clubs started up in 2000. Minnesota lead with 15 new clubs. There were 11 clubs that were cancelled out this past year. As of

March 16, 2001 we have received four new clubs for this year. They are from Kentucky, California, Nebraska and Arkansas.

Active pitching members went up slightly from last year, 4,450 men, 999 women, 237 junior boys and 93 junior girls. Twenty years ago in 1980 we had 1,963 and ten years ago in 1990 we had the best year for the sanctioned club program of 7,681. Now for 2000 we had 5,779 members who pitched on sanctioned leagues.

As far as the largest club in the United States, with the most active pitchers is the New Melle Club from Missouri with 144 members. The Denver Metro Club of Colorado is second with 117 and a new club from Minnesota, North Mankato comes in third with 98. The largest junior league this past year was Close Doesn't Count from Wisconsin with 32. West St Paul Junior League of Minnesota had 30 juniors and the Sheyenne Valley Junior League of North Dakota came in third with 27 juniors pitching.

This gives you a few facts and figures of our sanctioned league program. Of course we always have plenty of room for growth. So lets everyone keep promoting.

In upcoming issues under Sanctioned League News you can look for stories from our eight charter clubs that remain from the original 13. Next year, 2002 will be the 25th anniversary of the sanctioned club/league program, so I thought it would be a good time to hear some history of these clubs. The Whetstone Club of Ohio submitted their story by Dan Sanders in the November/December 2000 issue. The other seven charter clubs are: Denver Metro, CO.- Clearwater, FL.- Twin County, MA.- Moritz, MA.- Tri County, MN.- Winchester, VA.- Goldendale, WI.

This is the beginning of the summer season so good pitching to everyone, and lets all try to bring in a friend to pitch on your league this year. If we all did that, it could make 2001 the best year.

FOCUS ON PROMOTION *Continued from page 11*

Our treasury was about to run out of funds, but Russ Martin said we should do something for Dick.

We had a tournament cancellation for the September 30th date, so after a phone call or two, we called LeRoy Law to see if he would hold another tournament at Holiday Park in West Des Moines. All the entry fee money, after expenses, would go to the Dick Walker Float Fund. All the players and wives who helped with the float would be on the food committee. We would furnish the grilled brats, hotdogs and the trimmings. Each player was to furnish a covered dish and silverware for a potluck meal at noon.

September 30th turned out to be one of the most perfect fall days you could ask for, with a full sun and gentle breeze from the south. We picked a nice private spot for our grill and tables. When noon arrived, we quit pitching and had our meal. This was one of the most relaxing tournaments I've ever played in. After lunch, the players stayed around, lounging and telling horseshoe pitching stories from the past, wistfully wishing that players who had passed on would have been here to enjoy this outing.

LeRoy Law and committee also made it possible for those who were not signed up as a pitcher, to contribute to his envelope and sign a card for the event. There was a raffle for a pair of Allen horseshoes and prizes for the winner of each class. What an enjoyable day!

Our fund raiser for Dick Walker is now near the \$500 mark and there is interest in having another event raiser in the spring of 2001 - and also one in the fall of 2001.

What about 2001? We already have a \$250 check to make

*Bob Walters
awarding "Frank
Jackson Award" to
Dick Walker*



a float appearance sometime in Cedar Rapids. Ralph Palmer made sure we would make an appearance in his hometown. We've also been approached to appear in the Viesha Parade in Ames in the springtime. Thousands of young people and parents will be able to see horseshoes 'pitched on the go'!!

It looks like Dick Walker, the man who put this together, will be out on the parade route, talking to the crowd about what horseshoes can do for your health, your friendships and kind of like being a kid again and having lots of fun. Even though he's 67 years old, he has the youthful look of a 50 year old man.

At our annual meeting on October 21st, Dick Walker was presented the Frank Jackson Award. This award is presented to the Iowa Hawkeye Horseshoe Pitchers' Association member recognized for making the greatest contribution towards the promotion of our sport effort during the past season.

NHPA Income & Expenditures for February/March, 2001

RECEIPTS

NHPA LOGO USE FEE	100.00
2003 WT PAYMENT (EAU CLAIRE,WI)	5000.00
HORSESHOE SANCTION FEES	2800.00
MEMBERSHIP DUES 2001	31829.00
NEWSLINE ADS	812.00
NEWSLINE SUBSCRIPTIONS	7446.70
NHPF	10.00
SANCTION LEAGUE PATCHES	36.00
STATE CHARTER DUES	36.00
FIRSTAR BANK INTEREST MONEY MKT	2656.83
FIRSTAR BANK INTEREST CHECKING	244.82
TOTAL	50971.35

EXPENDITURES

REGIONAL DIRECTOR ALLOWANCE	4684.70
HALL OF FAME AWARDS, SUPPLIES	503.02
NEWSLINE PRINTING, SUPPLIES & MAILING	5276.73
NEWSLINE PUBLICATION, EDITING & MISC	608.00
REGIONAL DIRECTOR POSTAGE, TELEPHONE, SUPPLIES & PRINTING	662.80
EQUIPMENT PURCHASES, RENTALS & REPAIRS	495.36
PRINTING, PAPER & OFFICE SUPPLIES	978.16
POSTAGE	1227.16
OFFICERS TELEPHONE	331.04
OFFICERS TRAVEL	273.00
SECRETARY-TREASURER ALLOWANCE	3040.00
PRESIDENTS ALLOWANCE	912.00
PUBLICITY PROMOTIONS & ADS	1094.64
DIRECT & INDIRECT NHPF DONATIONS & SUPPORT	4625.66
PROFESSIONAL FEES, ACCOUNTING & LEGAL	87.50
MISC FEES, BONDS, BANK CHARGES, ETC	146.20
REFUNDS	36.00
NATSTATS	312.18
INTERNET ACCESS & WEBSITE	99.75
INTERNET EXPENSES	59.85
TOTAL	25453.75



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ST VINCENT dePAUL REHABILITATION SERVICE INC

In 1971 a US Presidential Committee predicted the need for 500 workshops to employ the handicapped in their communities.

That same year the state of Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation Division approached the Portland Council of the Society of St. Vincent dePaul. They offered to subsidize five "rehabilitation positions" in the Society's workshop. After a period of steady growth they had an operating budget of \$15 million and over 800 employees and trainees by 1996. In addition to servicing federal accounts, Frontline Staffing provides light industrial, clerical, administrative and technical personnel to local and state government and corporations.

1996 was a real turning point for St. Vincent dePaul Rehabilitation Service. We celebrated our 25th anniversary for providing training and employment opportunities for the disabled. We were recognized by Oregon Business Magazine and the Portland Chamber of Commerce as one of the "Top Ten Fastest Growing Companies" in the Portland Metropolitan area. In addition we opened a new Staffing Services office in Corvallis. In 1997 we moved the original Portland training center into a new larger facility in the Lloyd Center area to meet the growing demand for computer related training. In 1998 we opened a training center in Hillsboro, Oregon to make training easier to access for Washington County residents and businesses. New opportunities with the federal government also developed in 1998. To service these agencies in the Puget Sound area we started a new division called Frontline Staffing Services and opened our first out-of-state office in Renton, Washington.

In 1999 an opportunity to provide technical and administrative positions with the Navy allowed us to open an additional office in Bremerton, Washington to service the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

The history of St. Vincent dePaul Rehabilitation Service is an ever-evolving one that reflects an organization committed to change and continued growth.

And the editor acclaims this fine organization as a new "Friend of Horseshoes."

NATSTATS NATIONWIDE YEAR 2000

by Glenn Jamieson

LARGEST TOURNAMENTS DURING 2000

	NAME OF TOURNAMENT	SANCTION #	DATE	# OF PITCHERS	# STATES REPRESENTED
1	2000 World Tournament Bismark, North Dakota	15-00-010	July 31-August 12, 2000	1187	46 States, 7 Canadian Provinces, Japan - Norway
2	New England Championship Keene, New Hampshire	47-00-007	September 2-4, 2000	306	6 States
3	Missouri State Tournament New Melle, Missouri	19-00-029	September 2-4, 2000	289	All Missouri
4	California State Tournament Bakersfield, California	04-00-091	September 1-4, 2000	248	All California
5	Texas State Tournament Waco, Texas	22-00-040	October 13, 2000	248	All Texas
6	Minnesota State Tournament Rochester, Minnesota	23-00-022	September 1-4, 2000	233	All Minnesota
7	New York State Tournament Camden, New York	44-00-001	September 4, 2000	224	All New York
8	Ohio State Tournament Greenville, Ohio	36-00-043	September 1-4, 2000	215	All Ohio
9	Minnesota State Doubles Genola, Minnesota	23-00-023	September, 16-17, 2000	214	All Minnesota
10	Ringer Classic Greenville, Ohio	36-00-032	July 1-3, 2000	200	11 States 2 Canada Provinces
11	Carolina Dogwood Festival Statesville, North Carolina	40-00-009	April 29-30, 2000	184	14 States
12	Wisconsin State Tournament Arena, Wisconsin	28-00-031	September 2-3, 2000	181	All Wisconsin
13	9th Annual Main Event Quartzsite, Arizona	10-00-005	January 20-23, 2000	175	29 States 2 Canadian Provinces

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"SEEING IS BELIEVING"

For most pitchers, losing 37 points off your NATSTATS average would be a major discouragement. But for 62-year old David Hummel of Bradenton, Fla., it's a triumph, SINCE DAVE IS LEGALLY BLIND IN BOTH EYES..

Hummel, a Hall of Fame pitcher in his home state of Ohio, was making his first appearance of the season in March at the courts at G.T. Bray Park in Bradenton, Florida, in a tournament called the Jim Pelkey Open. Legally blind since Christmas of 2000, Hummel averaged 26.7 per cent ringers, capping off the day with a pair of 36-percenters.

"If I could see, I'd be OK," said Hummel. "I love to be out here, but it's disappointing not to be able to throw ringers. If I can't win, at least I like to give them a game." With two

*David is not a bragger
and is very private...*

good eyes only two short years ago, Hummel has pitched 63 per cent ringers; with one eye, 53 per cent. He once won a county tournament with 72 per cent ringers.

"He can see the big 'E' on the eye chart," said his wife, Sandy, secretary of the Bradenton Horseshoe Club and a rock during this difficult time. On Easter of 1999 while turning over the Horseshoe Cove courts (where the Hummels live), Dave suffered a blockage of the artery going to the retina in his left eye. Just like that, he was down to one eye.

A handyman with loads of energy, Hummel was hesitant to resume his work until doctors convinced him to get on with his life. This was like being struck by lightning, he was told. You have lots of good years left. Enjoy them. Then lightning struck again last Christmas. A brilliant light flashed in Hummel's right eye and his remaining sight disappeared. Two holidays, two eyes lost. Doctors eventually determined that Hummel is cursed with abnormal genes that affect blood clotting. He had suffered what amounted to heart attacks in both eyes.

Hummel can make out blurred objects in one eye, but that's about it. Nearly three months after saying he'd never throw another horseshoe, he was firing his trusty Ted Allens in the March afternoon Class B competition at Bradenton. To help give Hummel a fighting chance of identifying the target, the tops of the stakes were spray-painted white.

The afternoon belonged to Amos "Stringbean" Lowe, who went 6-0 in Class A and Ken Duquet, whose 5-1 record in Class B included a sterling game of 74 per cent ringers on 37-50. But everyone was buoyed by the return of Dave

Hummel, who can still identify a ringer. Hummel's story was aptly chronicled in the Bradenton Herald by writer Jim Smith.

The Hummels are returning to Ohio for the summer months. They belong to the Bradenton club and also help run tournaments in Sarasota. "We are a horseshoe family," Sandy says. Two sons, Steve and Phil, also pitch. Phil was 1979 Ohio Boys state champion. "Our grandson Matthew started pitching in 2000 at age 8 and has been in three tournaments," Sandy said. "So we have three generations pitching."

David first started pitching horseshoes 36 years ago in 1965 and belonged to the Hebron, Ohio Horseshoe Club until it folded in 1997. Statistics show he averaged in the high 60's with several games in the 80's. Son Phil ran the tournaments for several years. David and Sandra retired in 1995 and came to Florida with the idea of playing horseshoes and golf. "We hope to continue our same life style," she added. "But now he is legally blind and unable to drive...which is the worst thing for him to accept."

Friends in the Bradenton park, ironically named Horseshoe Cove RV Resort, have helped encourage Dave to remain active. He was a little hesitant to pitch horseshoes at first but they insisted and he kept trying.

"David is not a bragger and is very private so is a little in awe of the publicity, but hopefully this will help at least one person to see that they can go on and not give up," Mrs. Hummel said.

Hearing from the White House on a horseshoe pitching issue is a rare occurrence. Charles M. Bunner of West Virginia succeeded in obtaining President George Bush's response, acknowledging our organization as an integral part of America.

In this issue, page 28, is a form devised by Bunner for you, the NHPA membership, to use in supporting this worthy campaign. A strong voice, meaning many letters sent to the commemorative stamp committee, will be needed to reach our goal.

One other step, I believe, will also contribute to putting our request "over the top." Needed is a cogent artistic representation, supported by conclusive historic data, as to what we think this stamp should look like. This may be the difference in winning the approval of the commemorative stamp jury. I have put staff artist Cori Knox to work designing a sample illustration. It will be computerized-enhanced. Two other things will be needed. Other member artists should think of and draw up other replicas of their ideas and a selection be made by a new committee designated by the Executive Council.

As I have said before this artistic presentation is the editor's idea in keeping with my desire to visualize our future and help the NHPA accomplish its goals.

Indoor Horseshoe Club Members Donate to Other Horseshoe Pitching Organizations

Two horseshoe pitching organizations are receiving donations from another. The 116 members of the Mount Clemens Indoor Horseshoe Pitchers Club voluntarily donated on a weekly basis and collected enough money to send a check of \$550 each to The Southeastern Michigan Horseshoe Club and the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation. The MCIHPC is in its second year of operation and uses the Wilson Gym in Mount Clemens as its home base. The club is sponsored by the Mount Clemens Parks and Recreation Department.

The 135 member SMHC has a 20-year history of raising funds for charity. Weekend tournaments are held at a dozen or more locations throughout Macomb and St. Clair Counties in all weather conditions. The Club raised \$15,000 for charity in 2000.

A minimum donation of \$10.00 entitles one to full mem-

bership benefits in the SMHC. These benefits include: club newsletters, information on upcoming events, annual club picnics, lots of fun for the whole family, and a great opportunity to support local charities. Anyone can enter for a \$5 fee, whether a member or not. All donations/membership dues are donated 100 percent to charity.

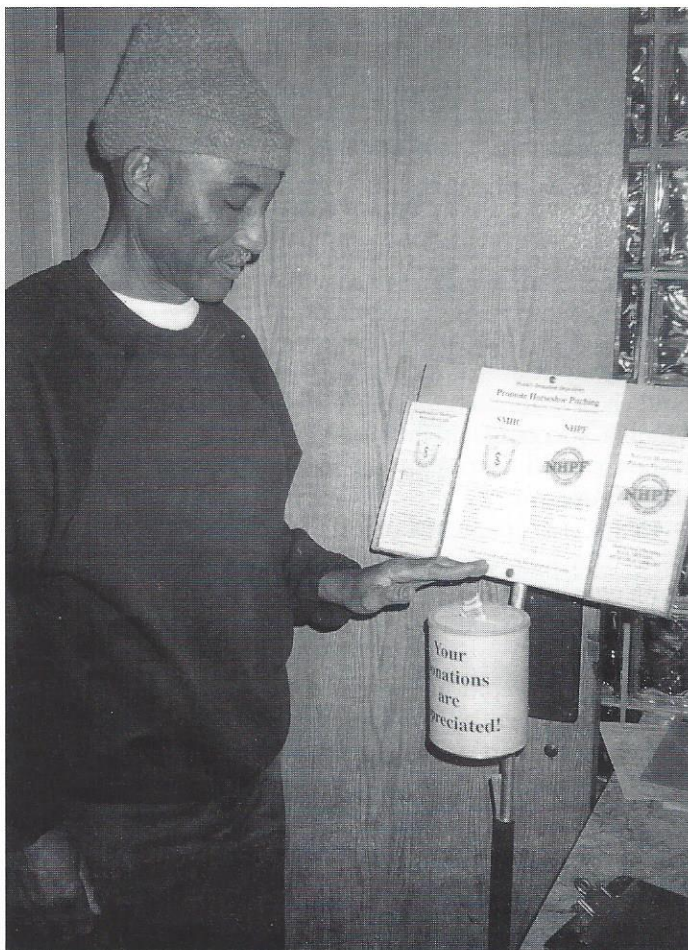
The Lions Club of New Haven is the home of the SMHC and holds most of its personal club support activities there. Contributions have been made to: Leader Dogs for the Blind; Special Olympics; Muscular Dystrophy; Children's Hospital, Detroit; Jerry's Kids; Red Cross; Goodfellows; Old Newsboys; and many needy individuals and families.

Inquiries about membership and donations can be sent to: SMHC, 6021 Smiths Creek Road, Smiths Creek, MI 48074, checks payable to Southeastern Michigan Horseshoe Club.

The NHPF was created in 1996 to educate the public about and promote the game of horseshoe pitching around the country as a non-professional sport. The NHPF plans to construct and maintain a Horseshoe Pitching Hall of Fame and Museum in Joelton, Tennessee. The NHPF is associated with the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association. The NHPA is the custodian of horseshoe pitching heritage and is the governing body of horseshoe pitching throughout the world. The big NHPA event each year is the World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament.

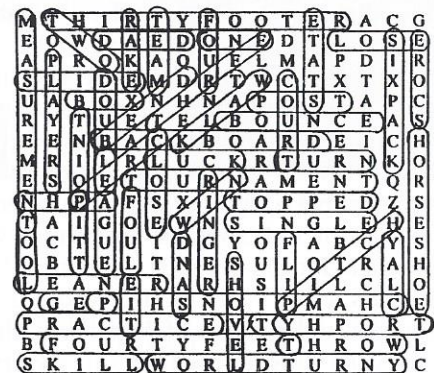
The Foundation needs the support of everyone interested in the growth of horseshoe pitching as a recognized sport. If the endowment fund grows big enough, the NHPF may, in addition to the Hall of Fame/Museum, one day be able to help local clubs construct or repair pitching facilities on public property. They may also be able to broaden scholarship support to the pitching youth.

Send your tax deductible contribution to: NHPF, P.O. Box 15027, Nashville, TN 37215-9027.



Albert Hawkins, an original member of the MCIHPC drops his weekly donation into the can. Hawkins is the President of the Pop Gentry Horseshoe Club in Detroit and is the Director of the newly formed Youth Division teaching Mount Clemens middle school children the sport of horseshoe pitching.

WORDMATCH Puzzle on page 17



PROMOTION JOTTINGS

By Bob Dunn

This issue's look back in history, is of Maine and New Mexico as written in 1940 in the NHPA Horseshoe Compendium:

MAINE - State officers of the Maine Association are: President, Frederick Robie, State House Augusta, Vice President, H. VanDerwerker, Brewer, Secretary-Treasurer, Raymond E. Adams, Auburn.

The state champion in 1926 was Mr. Cummings of Norway, and in 1927, the title-holder became Milton Bush of Auburn. Guy Sturtevant, of South Paris, won the honor in 1928 and successfully defended the title until 1932, when Ralph 'Doc' Robinson, also of South Paris, won the championship at the Lewiston Fairgrounds. Robinson held the title until 1935 when the first officially sanctioned meet was staged at Portland. Harold Goodier of South Portland, became the winner. The 1936 meet was played at Auburn and was won by the late Leonard "Tony" Lombardi, with an average of .628.

South Brewer held the 1937 meet which had to be played in the rain and Robinson became the champion, averaging .603. In 1938 the tournament went to Rumford, and the title went to Goodier. The 1939 meet was held at Portland and Merrill Barnes of Bangor came through to win the championship, averaging .606

The state of Maine has made remarkable strides forward

TIPS *Continued from page 17*

- practice with another pitcher to get use to the game rhythm
- play games

PREPARATION FOR COMPETITIONS: My first two appearances at the World Tournament were in 1985 and 1986. I went back only in 1992 and from that point we started to note small details that changed our approach to competition. Before that year we'd not been too disciplined. Here are the main details we now pay attention to which can be summed by "be prepared and disciplined!":

- drink enough (something I have a tendency to forget)
- drink energizing beverages (ex.: Gatorade)
- eat at least an hour before the start of competition (we try to eat pasta instead of hamburgers...)
- wear good shoes and comfortable clothes
- if playing under the sun, wear a hat and get good protection (cream)

Preparation also includes arriving ahead of time to relax and throw some warm-up shoes. I usually need about 30 minutes of warm-up before competition starts. It also includes gathering everything else you need for the competition: money for the scorekeepers, towel/cloth, straight edge and file, ... Small details, but an accumulation of it can make a difference.

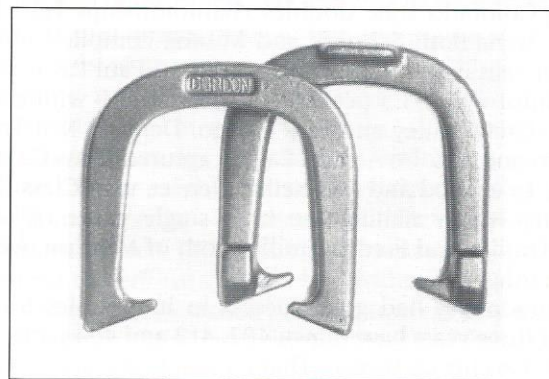
The rest of Sylvianne Moisan's story will appear in the next issue of Newsline.

in the horseshoe game, and bids to become one of the outstanding states in the National Association fold.

NEW MEXICO - New Mexico is the most recent joiner of the National Association, having entered the fold during 1939. Horseshoes is beginning to take hold there, and fine things are expected from New Mexico in the future.

The first state tournament was held at the State Fair in Albuquerque in 1939 and the title was won by the state president, Charles Curran. The officers for New Mexico are as follows:

President - Charles Curran, Clovis
Vice President - A.F. Scott, Albuquerque
Secretary - E.L. Drake, Albuquerque
Treasurer - Paul Mackey, Albuquerque



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ARIZONA

"Jan Clark of Minot, N.D., throws kind of a :frozen rope:. Her horseshoe takes a low, end-over-end trajectory across the brickwork, striking the metal stake with such force that it registers only a soft click. Bob Houde, of the Verde Valley Horseshoe Club, throws more of a moonshot: His 'shoe arches so high above Mesa's Pioneer Park, you have time to study the palm trees and the Arizona Mormon Temple before it strikes with a cash-register ring." Thus starts the article written by Michael Grady in the East Valley Weekend newspaper of Mesa. There were 144 pitchers from 27 states, and three Canadian provinces competing in the Valley of the Sun tournament.

COLORADO

(Double Ringer by Bob Champion)-Don Schneck (Denver) reached the winners circle for the third time as he teamed with Marcos Munoz from Brighton to win the 10th annual Colorado state doubles championships Feb. 3-4 at Knaub Arena. Both Schneck and Munoz compiled identical 48.3 per cent ringers. Top singles went to Paul LaCrosse and Rich Pintor with 83.3 per cent games. Class B winners were Dan McGrew, Bailey and Rick Griego, Denver. Ken Trujillo, Minturn and Onofre Acosta, Eagle, captured Class C. Nancy Wright, Lakewood and Mel Keller, Denver, won Class D with 40-footer Nancy nailing the high single game of 66.6%. Willie Trujillo and Fred Jaramillo, both of Minturn, won the Class E title.

Colorado has had great success in its doubles tournies. The last three years have drawn 402, 412 and 404 participants for seven events each year. That's a steady average of 58.

Publication of a record book covering horseshoe pitching in Colorado from 1921-2000 will be available about May 1. Copies of this comprehensive book will be sold for \$5 a copy at many of the weekend tournaments during the summer. This publication, compiled by CHPA statistician Mel Yockstick, will be an excellent addition to every Colorado horseshoe pitcher's library.

MARYLAND

(Janet Miller)-On Saturday, April 7, Baltimore Metro Horseshoe Club held its fifth annual Horseshoe Pitching Clinic. The three-hour clinic is open to all interested in learning about the sport of horseshoe pitching. Historically, we have addressed history of the sport, scoring, sportsmanship and pitching techniques. We hope to continue providing a quality clinic through the dedication and volunteerism of not only BMHC members but also other Maryland HPA members.

Last year, for instance, the BMHC hosted the event at Essex at its Back River Neck Recreation indoor clay courts. The clinic was well attended as pitchers responded to notices published in numerous area papers and public library branches. Of the 37 participants, 22 were new to BMHC.

BMHC was honored to have Elbert Shifflett of the Frederick club assist at the clinic. Elbert is the top Maryland pitcher and is currently ranked 13th nationally with a 75.22 average. Participants thoroughly enjoyed and commented on the great tips Elbert bestowed on fellow pitchers during the clinic.

MISSOURI

(Shoe Biz by Jeannette Claas)-At the close of the 2000 season the top Missouri pitchers in their respective categories include Stan Griggs, Raytown, 72.33%, mens; Lou Rector, Appleton City, 77.12%, 70+; Tyler Elfrink, Leopold, 67.4%, juniors; and Rose Diekamp, O'Fallon, 70.87%, womens. Some good marks to shoot at for 2001!

NEW JERSEY

(Jersey's Jargon by Pat O'Connor)-Anne Marie MacIntyre has stepped down as editor/publisher of Jersey Jargon. Since 1990 she has given us a wealth of information in every issue. Anne Marie kept all of us well informed of horseshoe activities in and around NJ. Her efforts did not go unnoticed. Last year, Jersey's Jargon was named the 3rd best horseshoe newsletter in the country. A real tribute to Anne Marie's efforts.

World class player Art Tyson was back on the circuit in New Jersey making waves. Art swept to four tournament victories: The Harmony Indoor Superbowl; he won with 10-1 and 66.38% ringers with a high game of 77.77; second, the Gene Castner #5, 6-0, 69.91 and 78.94; third, George Washington tourney, 8-0, 61.96 and 72.7 and fourth, St. Patrick's, 8-0, 67.81 and 82.3. All told a record of 32-1, including the last 27 in a row!

Responses to the questionnaire in the last Jargon shows that New Jersey pitchers have many opinions on our schedule and operation. Some of the highlights: Overwhelmingly, you did not think we have too many tournaments. You felt the state tournament should be moved away from Labor Day Weekend. It's done. You were pretty specific in saying you think the season should be extended into September. It's done. Although some do not like to play at night, most asked for more night tournaments to take advantage of cooler evening temperatures. It's done.

A big welcome to new editor Pat O'Connor.

OREGON

(Ringer Review by Pat Gee)-It didn't rain on our green parade! PD Bob Brennan spearheaded an entry in the Hillsboro St. Patricks Day Parade. Bob's decorated green van pulled the horseshoe museum trailer. Some 500 fliers were given out about horseshoes and lollipops for the kiddies (& big kids), by Marge and Chuck Owens, Cletus Hull, Bob Hummell, Bob Brennan and his daughters, Amber and Leanna. Lee Wallace drove the van with Barry Chapelle riding shotgun.

Several parade watchers commented that they had thrown shoes before. One old-timer was heard to say, "I used to throw a mean shoe." Thanks Bob and crew for getting horseshoes "out of the closet." And to Lee for taking the museum to Hillsboro.

Tourney director Jim Postell of Corvallis ran a uniquely different event in January at the Wren indoor courts. This was the one-day Judy Perry Memorial. We played a 16-person, 20-shoe game round robin and the person you were playing with was your partner rather than your opponent. Each partnership had a goal to attain based on their ringer percentages and how many ringers they should pitch. As an example pitcher A with a 60% average should pitch 12 ringers and

Continued on page 27

NHPA PUBLICITY CORNER

by Billie Sue Pennington



In the last two issues of NEWSLINE, I've written about finding "something big" to encourage local and national attention toward horseshoe pitching. Many comments and suggestions have been received.

Here are some random comments that kinda' hit home with me.

"More talkin'...this is the problem with any organization that meets only once a year and only a small percentage of the members are in attendance."

"We must think and act as a team with all horseshoe pitchers, not just NHPA members."

ON OBTAINING SPONSORS:

"We need to reach into our communities to gain recognition. If we reach out, sponsors will want to be involved with us.

"I know there is someone out their waiting for us just like we are waiting for them. We need to find a way to get together"

THOUGHTS FROM A CLUB IN OKLAHOMA THAT HAS SOME MARKETING PROFESSIONALS WITHIN THEIR MIDST...

We did discuss your "Do Something" attitude and are in agreement totally.

• **Collaborate with a national non-profit organization on an event.** (MDA, March of Dimes, MADD, Heart and Lung Assoc., etc.) MDA was the choice of the group because of the publicity they get and the fact that our officers could go on national network TV (the telethon) to present the check. The thought was that every club hosting a tourna-

ment could make one tournament this season "trophy only" with proceeds going to MDA.... then on Labor Day, Dave Loucks, could go on the telethon to give the money. This would be great for local publicity also.

• **Government Grants:** There are several grants available from the US Govt. If the NHPA

were to apply for a grant for the explicit purpose of publicizing the sport or a national event and use the money to buy TV time, produce a commercial, etc. The production of a commercial that would be free to local chapters could also be run as a Public Service Announcement locally. None of us knew how to find

these grants, but I'm sure that somewhere there is a grant writer that is also a horseshoe pitcher.

• **Make video available for the use of events that we are already involved in....**Senior Olympics, Special Olympics, local city celebrations etc. All these events are promoted on television. The reason horseshoe pitchers are not mentioned is simply that there is no commercially available video to insert into the promo. This is another thing that could be done with grant money.

• **The same goes for print promotions.** I have not seen any adslicks or press releases passed to us from NHPA and we would certainly submit them to the local media if they were passed down the pike. We think the wire services should be included in any e-mail. If some newspapers pick it up just for filler, that is free publicity.

Continued on page 31

THE HORSESHOE PITCHER'S COMPANION

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THE TOLL OF TIME

DOLORES DYKES

Dolores Dykes passed away at the age of 84 on Feb. 6. Dolores was the widow of former NHPA President Ralph Dykes. In 1997 Ralph and Dolores moved in with the Hixons in Florida, daughter Jimmie Jo and son-in-law Wally Hixon. They were looking forward to this event which finally happened for them. They did enjoy a few years of the most wonderful, comfortable living. They were cared for by Wally and Jimmie Jo. On Dec. 8, 1998, Ralph passed away. "The Living Legend" article made Ralph's day and also the remainder of his life.

He was our hero and Dolores was right at his side. Thanks to you Dave and Jim Haupt, for the nice presentation in the Newline. Now, on Feb. 6th, at the age of 84, Dolores Dykes (The First Lady) passed away peacefully. We would like all her friends to know in the Horseshoe World. Yes, she was in the "Family Hall of Fame;" she was the glue that held the NHPA together in the Dykes residence for many, many years. She will be sorely missed in the Horseshoe world, as much as the family and many friends all across America. Dolores' talents were unlimited; Nurse, Mom, Grandmother, Great Grandmother, Excellent cook and the list goes on. Including Chinese checkers, scrabble, cards and baking chocolate cookies. Her only downfall was: She tried to screen Ralph's jokes before he told them.

HOWARD "BUCK" MANN

Howard "Buck" Mann of Ronceverte, West Virginia, died Nov. 24, 2000, at the age of 76. Buck began pitching horseshoes in competition in 1974. He helped build 8 courts in Ronceverte (Island Park), and helped maintain them until 1997 when he developed symptoms of Parkinsons disease and was diagnosed in 1998. In 1996 he joined the NHPA and the WVHPA. He has been a continuous member until 1997 when he could no longer pitch because of his health.

Buck was past president of the Mountaineer Horseshoe Club and collected donations from local merchants for support of the annual tournament held in Ronceverte. He par-

ticipated in 15 World tournaments, the West Virginia state tournaments and any others he could get to. His first world was Bristol, Pa. in 1976 and his last was 1995 in Perry, Ga. He received many patches for class champion, NHPA Player of the year, High game %, etc. Buck also received a certificate of appreciation from NHPA President Glenn Portt, for his years of service as "JUDGE" Howard Mann at world tournaments.

He was a sales administrator for Bendix with 25 years service as a member of Ronceverte Christian Church, Camp Lew-Ron Sportsman Club and the over-the-hill bowling league and was a Naval veteran of WWII. Buck is survived by his wife Maxine, five daughters and one son.

MAVIS OLSON

Mavis Olson, 71, long-time North Dakota Horseshoe member and ND Hall of Fame member, passed away suddenly on Jan. 16, at her home in Bismarck, N.D. Mavis began pitching horseshoes in 1977 and started a women's league in Bismarck in 1978. She served as secretary-treasurer of the league from 1978-84. During this time, the membership grew to 60 women.

Mavis started pitching in tournaments in 1978 with a 3% ringer percentage. She pitched 46.8% in the 1986 North Dakota state tournament. Mavis attended the 1986 World tournament in Ainsworth, Ne. and the 1987 World in Eau Claire, Wi.

After resigning as secretary-treasurer of the women's league, she formed a junior league with a membership of 21 juniors. In 1993 Mavis received an award from the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association for having the largest junior league in the United States.

Mavis had served on the board of directors for the North Dakota HPA. She became treasurer of the Bismarck Horseshoe Association in 1987 that was formed to promote horseshoes throughout the Bismarck-Mandan area. In 2000, Mavis was instrumental in assisting with the 2000 World Horseshoe Tournament held in Bismarck, N.D.

In addition to pitching horseshoes, Mavis was an active golfer and bowler.

HERB PINCH

Herbert "Herbie" H. Pinch, formerly of Sharon, Pa., a rare person who spread joy in abundance as a professional clown, devoting this talent during recent World Tournaments, passed away Feb. 28 in a Hermitage, Pa. nursing home. Herb was stricken with myasthenia gravis many years ago. A widely known horseshoe pitcher for more than 40 years, Mr. Pinch was past secretary of the Pennsylvania Horseshoe Pitchers Association and was inducted into the National, State and Mercer County Halls of Fame. He also served as NHPA regional director for Pennsylvania and New York, a recipient of the Sportsman Award for the PHPA, a past secretary and delegate of state associations and promoter of horseshoes. He brought exhibition games to Sharon with Ted Allen, Jimmy Risk, and Raymond Frye. Herb was born July 18, 1916.

Herb had a tournament average of 70% or better in nine straight World Tournaments from 1960-68. One finish was 15th with a 72.7% average with 524 qualifying points. Among many championships included the New Brighton Class A, 69.3%, the AAU in Meadville and the New Castle title, 67.7%.

He was a member of El Bike Grotto Clown Unit and was well known for visiting and entertaining as "Herbie the Clown" at area hospitals, nursing homes and children's events. Mr. Pinch was a former active participant and chairman in the United Way Campaign and was an active member of the Mahoning/Shenango Valley Chapter of Myesthenia Gravis Foundation.

He was a member of Free and Accepted Masons Shenango Lodge 668; and Covenant Presbyterian Church and a life member of Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks Lodge 103, all Sharon. He attended Sharon schools and retired in 1977 after 42 years from the former Sharon Steel Corp.'s Farrell plant, for which he was a production clerk.

Surviving are his wife, the former Dorothy Mowry, whom he married Aug. 4, 1956; two daughters, Mrs. Robert (Barbara) Meyer, Transfer and Mrs. Publio (Marilou) Zampedro, Warren, Ohio; two sons, Robert Pinch, Meadville, Pa.; 12 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

Continued next page

pitcher B, with a 30% average, six ringers out of the 20 shoes. A scoring formula was devised to reward the pairs coming closest or exceeding their goals. In the end Rob Hettinga of Pendleton, who had driven 357 miles to play, won the tournament with 51 total points.

Willis Terry of Portland hadn't pitched at Wren in 25 years but entered and won the Portland Club's countall tournament in February. Terry amassed 636 points to best a field of 16. A handicap formula was used.

PENNSYLVANIA

(Pitchers Pulse-Western Pa.)-Kurt von Kleist, Jr., served notice that he is again a world tournament contender in the mens division, pitching a perfect game on Feb. 18 at Carnegie. von Kleist was 16-16. Last year he finished 8th in the world. Four Pennsylvania pitchers are in the U.S. Top 50. von Kleist 75.20, 17th; John Mathys 73.86, 23rd; Steve Kuchcinski 70.01, 36th and Glenn Burris 69.94, 37th.

Going way back, state historian Don Witt relates: In 1898 Leo Balizet of Meadville was the first known person to throw an open shoe. In 1899 J. Hike Browning, age 13, started the world's first horseshoe league.

HOPE's beautiful new outdoor courts, 8 in all, will be site of the 2001 Team/Club championships in August. Some interesting tidbits: A total of 184 WPHPA cardholders participated in at least one tournament in 2000, out of a total membership of 274. Overall there were 15 tournaments on the summer schedule. During those 15, a total of 92,636 ringers were pitched out of 254, 536 shoes, for an average of 36.39%, reports statistician Steve Morris.

TENNESSEE

(THPA NEWSLETTER)-James Elmore has been studying ringer percentage differentia between 30 and 40 foot pitchers. His research involves 272 30-foot women pitchers from three states. Of the 272, only one averaged 70%. Only 9.19 per cent had an average above 50%. He suggests that some men pitchers in Tennessee have been influenced in their beliefs by the fact that we have 6 of the top women pitchers in the

world in the Tennessee-Kentucky area. These are the women pitchers they observe most; therefore they are under the misconception that any woman can attain these percentages easily. If pitching 30- feet automatically makes a top pitcher, then a large number of those 272 would be pitching at a higher level. The fact is 90.81 per cent pitch less than 50%. "Out great sport would be better served if we made all pitchers feel welcome," he observes.

In the February-March issue Tennessee welcomes 12 new members into the THPA fold.

WASHINGTON

(Shoes News by Jim Link)-Another Winetrout Classic ends. The 66 pitchers that attended the final day of this six-round series at Everett's Forest Park, are testimony to the dedication that horseshoe pitchers have to their sport. That there are pitchers who attend every one of these six tournaments in the dead of winter, is remarkable. That the Winetrout series has survived for 37 years is remarkable. That it continues to find support and grow in the new century is an incentive to those who strive to promote our sport to redouble their efforts. Especially encouraging is the number of junior pitchers that tried horseshoe pitching for the first time this year.

An article in a past Shoes News "The History of the Winetrout Winter Open Ringer Classic" contains the following statement. "This series of six tournaments was started by Francis "Winnie" Winetrout in 1965. They serve a dual purpose, i.e., to encourage early renewal of state and national memberships and to give those of us who are hardy enough to brave rain, wind, sleet, snow and sometimes sunshine a chance to keep our pitching skills up to a competitive level on a year-round basis. Besides it's always nice to see and visit with our pitching friends."

Due to a shortfall in the WSHPA treasury for the year 2001, the executive board elected not to allocate state funds for the NHPE. It was suggested that raffles be held at tournaments to support the NHPE. So..tourney directors..find someone in your club to do a raffle for the NHPE.

THE TOLL OF TIME *Continued from page 26*

ELMER WILSON

Elmer Wilson, charter and founding member of the Yolo Horseshoe Pitching Club, died March 20 after suffering a brain aneurysm just the night before. Elmer was a 20-year member of the NHPA and major contributor to the Yolo club both financially and through his unselfish giving of countless hours of labor at the courts. The park which contains houses the Yolo Club facilities, was named after Elmer in the mid-1980's. When Yolo County changed the park's name in 1995, the club named the courts after Elmer and continues to use the Elmer name for the park.

Elmer served as an officer of the Yolo Club from the first time officers were elected until the present time.

He is a member of the Yolo Hall of Fame and in 1995 was elected to the Northern California Hall of Fame. Elmer Wilson will be missed by many, especially by his family and those of us whose lives he touched. As modest as he was, most of us old timers will always remember him as the main cog of the Yolo Horseshoe Pitching Club.

WILLIAM (BILL) CALHOUN

Long time Alabama and NHPA member Bill Calhoun passed away recently from respiratory complications following abdominal aneurysm surgery performed in January. Bill was 80 years old when he died on March 28, 2001 in Opelika, Alabama.

An AHPA member since 1976 Bill was an excellent pitcher but his great-

est contribution was as a promoter and organizer. Bill held offices as VP and President of the Alabama Horseshoe Pitchers Association and served many years as the Regional Director for Alabama and Mississippi. Bill was inducted into the AHPA Hall of Fame in 1997.

Bill received a masters degree in physical education and recreation from Peabody College, now Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. In August 1951 he accepted the position of Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Opelika, a position he held until his retirement in May 1981. Preceded in death by his wife Annice. Bill is survived by three children and seven grandchildren.



WHAT THE HECK IS IT??

The National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation is a non-profit, charitable foundation: to promote and advance the game of horseshoes to develop a site for the NHPA Hall of Fame to disseminate information and instruction in the game of horseshoes

HOW IN THE WORLD DID THIS ALL START??

Started when Jack Freeman of TN wanted to donate land and his horseshoe pitching facility to the NHPA - COULDN'T BE DONE unless there was a charitable foundation in place - for tax purposes. Jack envisioned a permanent Hall of Fame site AND a horseshoe facility where World Tournaments could be held. Ideas of promoting and educating people about horseshoes were added.

WHERE DID/DOES THE MONEY COME FROM??

The original money, \$155,000.00 - came from a Hall of Fame fund which the NHPA started approx. 30 years ago for a Hall of Fame building - this money started from a "seed" fund of \$10,000 which was invested in various CD's. Ongoing donations to the NHPF from NHPA members and interested pitchers are augmenting the fund. ALL these donations are TAX-DEDUCTIBLE. THE GOAL: To have \$1 million in the fund so the work

can continue and any Hall of Fame building and upkeep will be taken care of from the interest accrued.

CONCERNS OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE

- 1. Hall of Fame idea not first and foremost in the minds of NHPA members.
2. How many people pitch in TN? Is the area an active horseshoe area?
3. Will our money be safe in the fund past Dec. 31, 2000?

ANSWERS TO ABOVE CONCERNS

- 1. The Hall of Fame building is still a priority to the Board of Directors but will now be much smaller than originally planned. It will be a SAFE and SECURE building for all of the accumulated Hall of Fame material.
2. Not many people currently pitching in Joelton, TN, site of the buildings. PRIMARY GOAL: To increase the activity of leagues, etc. in Joelton.
3. Dave Loucks feels that the NHPF will definitely pass the "test" of being a publicly funded foundation - therefore WILL continue into 2001 and beyond.
Questions, comments are not only welcome - they are expected! Hope to hear from you.
Submitted by Ad Hoc committee: Debby Michaud, MA, (loonpond@tmlp.com), Homer Cain, OK, Barry Chapelle, OR, John Passmore, MD, and Mark Siebold, IN.

PLEASE FILL OUT AND SEND

Date _____
From _____

To: UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
ATTN: Citizens' Advisory Committee
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, D.C., 20260-3500

Dear Sir:

I request that a commemorative stamp be issued for the sport of horseshoe pitching, an activity that dates back to the Roman Era, and was known to have been played during the Revolutionary War.

The sport is played by all ages at picnics, reunions, and in backyards by several millions throughout these United States, in Canada; Norway; Japan; Austria; Togo; England; Germany; Ireland, and in the

Philippines. U.S. Soldiers are known to pitch horseshoes in South Vietnam and in South Korea, as a form of recreation.

Beginning Calendar Year 1909, World Horseshoe Pitching Tournaments were began, and except during World War II, World Tournaments have been held throughout several States and in Canada.

The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association was organized BY 1914, and it has issued fifty-seven (57) Charters within the United States; Canada; and Japan, and for CY 2000 had 12,584 adults and 814 Juniors.

To learn more details of the NHPA log on to the NHPA WEBSITE www.horseshoepitching.com

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Telephone Number: _____

LINES FROM THE **CHAPLAIN** by Lloyd Killgore

"In these times of strife I find repose in remembrance of the beauty of the island of my childhood." - Alexander Hamilton.

EDITORS NOTE: While this section is reserved for NHPA Chaplain Jerry Holt, it is also available for testimonials of faith.

Faith arrives at our doorstep when least expected. We can be in the throes of pleasure, watching a favorite movie. Or we can be on the horseshoe court, the bowling alley, or at work. It came to me while I was counting trees for the Oregon State University department of forestry. Trudging along in my boots over rough terrain. Holding a counter, strapped to my neck. I could say to myself, wasn't I retired? Why am I doing this? Man was created to work, and no matter what stage in life he happens to be.

Sometimes we struggle but as the scriptures teach, "without faith it is impossible to please Him." So we should go on with our lives, insisting on doing the things that He has taught us. In spite of easy access to things of the flesh, which He has counseled us to avoid.

It was almost 50 years ago--1952--that I experienced something on the athletic field to test my faith. That Old Man, called Satan, seemed to always be lurking around. One thing this fiend echoed in my mind trying to defeat me. "Boys without dads can't play ball. You'll fail. Quit trying. Take the easy way out. Play pinball machines instead, all fun and no stress." Isn't that just like the Old Man of Sin. Take the easy way out.

But apparently I did not listen because I was playing third base, known as the Hot Corner, for our eighth grade softball team. In a key playoff game, one that would decide who would play in the city's junior high championship game. In the top of the seventh I tried to field a low throw at the bag as the runner honed in. It got past me, skipping behind a group of spectators. That Old Man must have beamed with satisfaction as the play unfolded. Now, he would say, you're going to let that run score! Determination entered me like a Gideon in battle. God had said to him, "be thou strong and very courageous" referring to the heat of battle when adversity strikes.

Quickly I retrieved the ball but was it too late? All in a flash the wheels of the universe spun in slow motion. I had to throw over the spectators who had gathered along the third base line. The entire school was watching this game. And I could not see home plate!

But the scriptural teaching prevailed. Be thou strong and very courageous. I might have parted someone's hair with the throw, arcing it slightly but keeping it on a line I, only in faith, could determine was home plate. The crowd was roaring and I had no inclination of the outcome until I saw our 4'7" catcher, Zingzing, raise his arms in front of the plate. "Great throw 'Gore," he said. The third out had been recorded. But the Old Man wasn't finished. So why go to all that trouble, he said, you're still behind.

True. The unlikely success of the throw cut short the opponent's rally, but they still led 14-12. We had one last at-bat. And our first two batters went out. It was as if someone was extinguishing a love-worn lamp. One last flicker. Zingzing walked and Ballew singled and now Leroy was up. I was on deck. If Leroy walked I would come to bat with the bases full, the game on the line. The count went to 3-0, surely my test was coming. I felt my heart skip a few extra beats. Then the umpire entered the picture. He called two strikes on pitches that were obviously balls. This irked Leroy, his adrenaline was pumped. On a 3-2 count he slammed the ball into a huge gap in right-center. The rest is history. A three-run homer and our home room was now in the championship game with a thrilling 15-14 victory.

Our woodshop teacher found me, my arms around Leroy. Mr. Tapie knew I struggled in woodshop. He was there to give his support to our play. He congratulated Leroy and turned to me. "It never would have happened though, except for that throw of yours, Lloyd..." Without it, their rally would have continued and who knows how many runs they would have scored? Put that way I then recalled the scriptures as I had been taught. Fight the good fight of faith, Paul admonishes in the New Testament. Sometimes it comes on the ballfield, instead of the battlefield.

PERFECTGAMES NHPA Sanctioned Perfect Games - 40 or More Shoes

PLAYER-STATE	DATE	LOCATION	OPPONENT	SP	DIV
Guy Zimmerman - CA	1948	Milwaukee - WI (WT)	Henry Pergal	44	M
Walter Ray Williams Jr. - CA	1977	Hermiston -OR	Bob West	56	M
Kirk Bartnik - MN	1980	Genola - MN	Tom Holland	50	B
Walter Ray Williams Jr. - CA	1981	Pleasanton - CA	Bob Mauzey	50	M
Carl Steinfeldt - NY	1982	Clearwater - FL	Floyd Bartley	50	M
Walter Ray Williams Jr. - CA	1990	Santa Rosa - CA	Dave Shelton	50	M
Tari Powell - IL	1991	Cayuga - IN	Karl Van Sant	40	W-Mxd
Cathy Carter - IA	1992	Beloit - WI	Dale Lipovsky	40	W-Mxd
Sue Snyder - IND	1994	Edinburg - IN	Bob May	40	W-Mxd
Jeremy Umphries - TX	1997	Ada OK	Kendra Jarrett	40	B
Lois Webster - KY	1998	Joelton - TN	Cliff Baker	40	W-Mxd

TOURNAMENT TRAVEL CONTACTS

The following is a list of all NHPA Regional Directors and the states or territory they cover. Those of you who travel and want to get out-of-area tournament information, are encouraged to contact the appropriate Regional Director. Each RD maintains a full list of all NHPA sanctioned tournaments in their area. If your travel plans call for stops in several states and you need multiple state information, you might want to write the NHPA 1st Vice President who is in charge of all RDs. He should have copies of all the state schedules. The address for the 1st VP can be found on page 3 of this publication.

REGION	REGIONAL DIRECTOR				
1. Washington	Vey Allen Box 493 Benton City, WA 99320 (509) 588-3351	14. New Mexico	Charles Knotts P.O. Box 361 Logan, NM 88426 (505) 487-2248	32. Kentucky	Monty Roberts Box 637 Warsaw, KY 41095 (606) 567-8511
2. Oregon	Rick Rebman 80037 Rosa Lane Hermiston, OR 97838 (541) 567-8560	15. N. Dakota	Clint Bryson 901 Custer St. Belle Fourche, SD 57717 (605) 892-2195	33. Tennessee	Dexter Stallings 731 Reed Drive Powell, TN 37849 (865) 947-7865
8. Idaho	Gail Sluys 1721 San Ramon Way Santa Rosa, CA 95409 (707) 538-3128	16. S. Dakota	Pat Wernhoff 255 6th Ave., S. Columbus, NE 68601 (402) 564-7323	34. Georgia	Jerome Kennedy Rt. 2, Box 1315 Hawkinsville, GA 31036 (478) 892-3885
3. Northern California	Fred Briand P.O. Box 1137 No. Edwards, CA 93523 (760) 769-4347	17. Nebraska	Bernie VanLerberg 12419 142nd St. Bonner Springs, KS 66012 (913) 422-7095	35. Florida	Ron Deckard 7302 Brookview Circle Tampa, FL 33634 (813) 884-2932
4. Southern California	Myrtle May L. Kamoku P.O. Box 273 Anahola, Hawaii 96703 (808) 821-0602	18. Kansas	Elwyn Cooper 6920 N.W. 78th Street Kansas City, MO 64152 (816) 741-0043	36. Ohio	Dan Sanders 6687 Merwin Rd. Columbus, OH 43235 (614) 761-3357
6. Hawaii	Don Weaver 2206 Sunnyslope Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89119 (702) 736-7348	19. Missouri	Ronnie Frederick 1015 19th Street Woodward, OK 73801 (580) 256-2759	37. West Virginia	Ken Wilhelm 405 Stealy Avenue Clarksburg, WV 26301 (304) 622-1265
7. Nevada	Bud Schardine 354 Brookside Drive Springville, UT 84663 (801) 489-6351	20. Oklahoma	Richard Archer 3006 Barnes Road Ozark, AR 72949 (501) 667-3078	38. Virginia	Kevin Snelgrove P.O. Box 625 Stuarts Draft, VA 24477 (540) 337-4689
9. Utah	Joe Kubiak 5525 Concho Drive Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 (520) 772-3242	21. Arkansas	Randy Collins 3902 Ravenwood Bryan, TX 77802 (979) 776-1148	39. Pennsylvania	Darle Esh 68 Solitude Road Milroy, PA 17063 (717) 667-3108
10. Arizona	Wayne Bennett 1520 Beartooth Rd. Wolf Creek, MT 59648 (406) 235-4062	22. Texas	Ward Lutz 900 11-1/4 St., SW Rochester, MN 55902 (507) 288-5182	40. N. Carolina	Wayne Roope 358 Roop Road Hays, NC 28635 (336) 957-8396
11. Montana	Pat Bacus 440 W. 3rd Lovell, WY 82431 (307) 548-6593	23. Minnesota	C. Leo Buell 1809 Lakeside Dr. Iowa City, IA 52240 (319) 338-8256	41. S. Carolina	Ron Taylor 116 Knox Street Clover, SC 29710 (803) 222-3990
12. Wyoming	Don Conklin 898 Sycamore Ave. Boulder, CO 80303 (303) 499-9091	24. Iowa	Ron Kindrick 678 Williamson Kindrick Trail Eclectic, AL 36024 (334) 541-2720	42. Maryland	Don Lawyer 730 Hickok Trail Lusby, MD 20657 (410) 326-2070
13. Colorado		25. Mississippi	Ron Latiolais 12102 Turry Road Gonzales, LA 70737 (225) 647-4992	43. Delaware	Lance Twyman 6320 CR 27 Canton, NY 13617 (315) 386-2404
		26. Alabama	Jim Haupt 5075 N. Elkhart Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53217 (414) 964-2735	44. New York	George St. Pierre 25 Leefort Terrace Salem, MA 01970 (978) 744-3110
		27. Louisiana	Dave Shreve 2127 Lynn Street Cahokia, IL 62206 (618) 332-2599	45. Maine	
		28. Wisconsin	Steve Summerlin 198 O'Doherty Brighton, MI 48116 (810) 220-4558	46. Vermont	
		29. Illinois	Jim Shilling 5044A CR 64 Spencerville, IN 46788 (219) 238-4879	47. New Hampshire	
		30. Michigan		48. Massachusetts	
		31. Indiana		49. Connecticut	
				50. Rhode Island	
				51. New Jersey	Ed Quigley 27 Mountain Ave. Pompton Plains, NJ 07444 (973) 839-0946
				52. Alaska	Pete Imhof 9031 Tern Dr. Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-2030
				61-72 Canada	Jack Adams 35 O'Neil Crescent Saskatoon, SK Canada S7N 1W7 (306) 373-5184

PUBLICITY CORNER

Continued from page 25

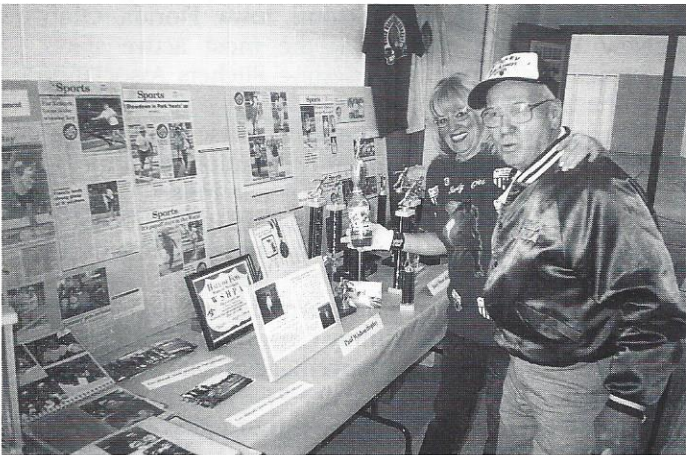
The general consensus of our little, rather insignificant group was this; a national event would produce short-term results and that's ok, but for this whole PR thing to fly and stay aloft, anything done nationally has to be backed up at the local level. If you relate this to selling soap, Tide could run millions of dollars worth of spots during the super bowl, but if your local grocer doesn't honor the price, put the coupons in the paper, put a sign in the window etc. the soap won't leave the shelf.

Our suggestion is that a plan be formulated with long-term results in mind. The plan (if it's for a National Fundraiser) should be specific in what the local club should do and should include what the NHPA is going to do with generated funds from local efforts i.e., give this money to MDA etc.

We suggest that a plan be set up to market the sport, not the NHPA alone. Not a single event, but the entire sport. Maybe if we sent the numbers on how many miles you walk during a tournament, (how much weight you lift etc.) to the Heart and Lung Assoc. we might even get an open endorsement an increase in membership will follow accordingly.

If the plan was set up with 1 year, 5 year and 10-year goals similar to any corporate marketing plan, we think the results would amaze us all.

Paul Wishon's Hall of Fame Display



Paul Wishon, 82, started playing horseshoes in 1964 in Detroit, Michigan. He joined the Wolverine state association in 1969 and was inducted into the WSHP Hall of Fame in 1997. Paul started the Berkley (Mich) club on Harvard Street in 1978. In 1979 Paul's buddy Marv Kangas joined the club and provided Paul with all the help he needed. They now have 16 courts with pitching platforms for all positions and new clay has been added

Paul donated \$50 to the NHPF. He turned it over to Dean Schmitz. There are other members like Paul out there, Schmitz says, who could use some assistance when it comes to sending in donations to the NHPF. Just a reminder to give them assistance in doing this.

Interesting "studies" From "the MUD" New York State HPA

by Ken Fraser, NYS Statistician

While everyone tries to improve their game, some have more success at it than others. This month we'll take a look at the top pitchers in New York State, and see if there is anything they all may have in common.

There are currently 29 men in New York State who carry an average of 50% ringers or better. Here is a breakdown of what turn these players throw:

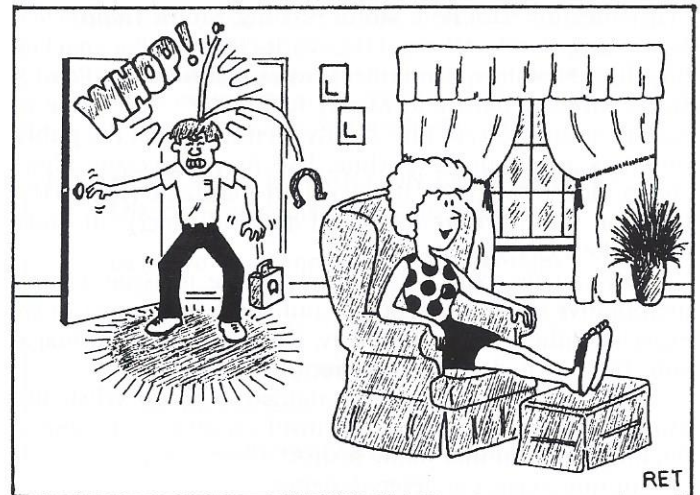
- One and one quarter turn: 63%
- One and three quarters turn: 14%
- Three quarter turn: 10%
- Single flip: 10%
- Three quarter reverse turn: 3%

The top 11 men in New York State all pitch the one and one quarter turn. Conventional wisdom holds that at the full distance of 40 feet, the 1 and 1/4 and the 1 and 3/4 turns stay on the stake much better than the single flip or 3/4 turn. The slower turns and flips hit too dead on and have a tendency to bounce straight back off the stake. It is my opinion that a single flip or 3/4 turn pitcher has to be at least 5% better than his opponent to be on equal footing because of the lost ringers. How a shoe turns is determined by the grip and the angle at which it leaves your hand. "Turn" pitchers don't do anything "special" to make the shoe turn the way it does.

I used the top 14 averages in the state for the women's sample. Here is their breakdown:

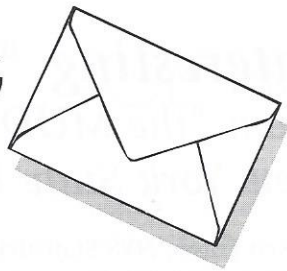
- Single flip: 86%
- One and one quarter turn: 7%
- Three quarter reverse turn: 7%

Wow, quite a difference from the men's breakdown! Why might this be? Among the reasons, at 30 feet, the shoe can be thrown much softer, and turning or flipping the same amount of revolutions in a shorter distance has the same effect as a faster turn at 40 feet.



"SO DEAR, DID THE LUCK FALL YOUR WAY TODAY AT THE HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT?"

MAILBAG



FROM THE POSTAL SERVICE

Dear Mr. Bunner:

This is in response to your recent letter to President Bush regarding your suggestion that a commemorative stamp be issued to recognize the sport of organized horseshoe pitching.

Thank you for your interest in our stamp program. Each year, the Postal Service receives thousands of suggestions for new postage stamps. As the number of stamps we issue is limited, the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee was established in 1957 to review all suggestions and make recommendations for new stamps to the Postmaster General. The Committee members base their recommendations on national interest, historical perspective, and other criteria.

The Committee decides on new stamp subjects far in advance of the issue date in order to provide lead-time for planning, designing, production, and distribution. Currently, stamps for 2003 and subsequent years are being considered. Although many of the subjects for upcoming new stamps have been identified, no public announcement of individual new stamps is made until the entire stamp program for that year has been approved. This normally occurs in the fall preceding the year of issuance.

Your support for a stamp for organized horseshoe pitching is being included in the Committee's files.

Sincerely,

Deborah D. Leifer

Manager, Government Relations Response

MAGAZINE MAY NEED STRONGER IDENTITY

Dear Editor:

I've always thought that the name of a publication should, clearly and forcefully, identify the subject. This is especially important for sport, game and hobby magazines.

Please note the enclosed fotos (2 angles) of 15 publications on the rack in a public library. Included among the magazines are: Hot Rod, Motor Boating, Motor Trend, Field & Stream, Golf, Chess Life, Golf Digest, Backpacker, Bicycling, Newsline, Computer Games, Car & Driver, Road & Track, Motor Cyclist and Model Railroader. The name of each magazine, except one, clearly identifies what the publication is all about. Newsline, like its predecessor, News Digest, does not appear to be a sport magazine (the NHPA I.D.'s on the cover are too small and indistinct). It looks more like a CNN publication.

How can we expect the Postal Service to issue a commemorative stamp to recognize our sport, and how can we expect to otherwise get publicity, when our national magazine, by NAME, doesn't recognize our sport?

If there can be magazines named Motor Cyclist and Model Railroader, surely there is justification for "Horseshoe Pitching" on a similar name instead of Newsline.

Our fine magazine deserves better.

Respectfully submitted,
E.L. Quigley, Regional Director
New Jersey

SYLVIANNE MOISAN'S SURGERY

Just a short message to inform you about Sylvianne's health. She had surgery last Monday morning, April 9, related to her Crohn's Disease. They removed 18 inches of her colon, but Sylvianne's surgeon told her that she also removed a part of her (infected) small bowel, and a small part of her stomach as she also had stomach perforation. These two additional problems were a little unexpected. She's recovering as this is written and doesn't feel too much pain as she's got epidural. She should stay at the hospital until next Tuesday or Wednesday, and will probably start her regular activities in mid-June.

Andre LeClerc
Quebec

THANKS, DAVE..

We would like to publicly extend a great hand of applause to Dave Loucks for his years as our Newsline editor. I doubt that many know the work that goes into such an endeavor until you've been there yourself. Thanks, Dave, for your example of dedication to our great organization.

Welcome aboard Lloyd - we wish you great success.

Jim & Phyl Quist
Ferndale, Wa.

The Sport of Horseshoe Pitching Began in Meadville, PA in 1899

"There is no trace of organized play (of horseshoe pitching) in the United States until an active local club was formed at Meadville, Pennsylvania in 1899" states Judge Ottie W. Reno in his book, Pitching Championship Horseshoes.

So began the sport of horseshoe pitching in the United States. Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Florida, Ohio, New York and California, the most active states, formed the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association of the United States in 1921.

All League and tournament horseshoe pitchers must belong to the National Association, be under its constitution, bylaws, rules and regulations.

Pennsylvania is a leader of champions in horseshoe pitching in world, national and state tournaments.

Some of them are:

Dan Kuchinski of Erie - World Champion 1967. Dan appeared on the Johnny Carson show for 12 minutes in 1968. His ringer percentage as 84.7%.

Frank Bohun of Erie - at age 86 - World Champion in the Elder Class, four times in four years, with a percentage of 90%.

Steve Morris from Beaver County - twice champion in the Youth Class at ages 15 and 16.

At world tournaments held in the United States and Canada, an average of 48 states were represented plus seven countries from Europe and Asia with 1800 horseshoe pitchers.

Pennsylvania ranks high with world champion horseshoe pitchers in different classes. And it all began in Meadville in 1899.

Judge John G. Brosky
Superior Court of Pennsylvania
PA State Champion Elders Class 1993
World Tournament 1997, 3rd Place, Canada
Member, Western Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame

NHPF NEWS & CONTRIBUTION UPDATE by Dave Loucks

Four NHPF directors recently got together in Joelton during the New Melle vs Tennessee match up. While they were there for a little horseshoe pitching, they took the opportunity to hold an unofficial meeting and gather the latest info on the facility from Jack Freeman. It was reported that Jack has split the remaining 7-acre improved parcel and quit-claimed the back portion with the 20 outdoor covered courts to the NHPF. It is within this large roofed structure

that the initial NHPA Hall of Fame room is planned for enclosure. Three contractors have already looked at the site and been asked for opinions on how best to proceed with enclosing and finishing rooms under the existing metal roof that covers the 20 courts. No cost estimates have yet been requested as we are waiting for a county inspection of the existing septic system and their ruling on whether it will be adequate for the added restrooms that would accompany the

Hall of Fame construction. Hopefully, we will have further positive news to report by World Tournament time.

The four-year advance-ruling period the IRS granted the NHPF for operation as a publicly supported charitable organization ended December 31, 2000. I had to present the IRS with a full 4-year financial report regarding contributions, their source and amount. This was expected, as the IRS

Continued on page 34

Contributions received in January and February

DONATING \$5-40

Raymond Orłowski, IL
James & Evelyn Metzger, IL
James & Shirley Boetje, IL
John & Betsy Lyle, CO
Ernest Ellermann, Jr. MO
Daniel LaFond, IL
Ed Thigpen, TX
Michael Ardelean, MI
Raymond Hall, NY
(in memory of Bill Hyland)
Billy Garner, MO
Warren Green, MO
Art Moran, MN
Wayne Jensen, CO
Judith Welzenbach, NV
James Andrews Jr., NC
Ronald Bowerman, NY
Millard Hall, FL
Clayton Gage, WI
George Hodulik, NJ
Howard Meyers, MD

Joan Bryan, CA
James Wallace, CA
Walter Srenaski, WI
Robert Scharfe, FL
D. Glenn Lang, OH
Kent Etter, AZ
Raymond Parnay, CA
Sam Raymond, FL
David Garen, FL
Paul & Donna Anzelone, CA
Jay Mallonee, MD
Neal Pronek, NJ
Gerald Huberth, FL
Ed Boggess Sr., FL
Harry Nelson, WI
David Mee Jr., TN
Donald Minich, FL
Clancy Coates Jr., CA
Chris Koanui, HI
David Miller, FL
Bernard Merchen, CA
Delmas Whittier, CA

Eugene Elliot, HI
Kenneth Grune, NJ
Rose Warren, NM
(in memory of Virgil)
Roy Emrich, NY
Richard Jerrel, FL
Darrell Foster, FL
John Rainbow, PA
James Drake, PA
Glen Plaisted, PA
Dave Kois, NY
Erin & Emma Hardy, MN
James Schneider, MI
Richard Stormont, AZ
Randy Rein, WI
Cecil Cook, KY
Donating \$50-90
Dale Henry, TX
Raymond Jessen, NE
Waterloo Ringers Horseshoe Club, NY

Continued on page 34

How your state ranks in number and dollars contributed

1. Tennessee, 28 for \$18,365
2. California, 96 for \$10,126
3. Georgia, 13 for \$5,655
4. Minnesota, 95 for \$4,307
5. Wisconsin, 50 for \$4,080
6. Massachusetts, 6 for \$3,990
7. Oregon, 34 for \$3,906
8. Missouri, 49 for \$3,893
9. North Carolina, 52 for \$3,784
10. Michigan, 63 for \$3,502
11. Colorado, 30 for \$3,246
12. Florida, 44 for \$2,693
12. Texas, 25 for \$2,655
14. Ohio, 60 for \$2,473
15. Iowa, 17 for \$1,846
16. Kentucky, 25 for \$1,810
17. Kansas, 20 for \$1,682
18. Washington, 20 for \$1,575
19. Illinois, 42 for \$1,555
20. Indiana, 15 for \$1,308
21. Pennsylvania, 26 for \$1,289
22. Nebraska, 16 for \$1,136
23. New Jersey, 19 for \$1,075
24. Nevada, 8 for \$890
25. North Dakota, 6 for \$820
26. New York, 22 for \$779
27. Connecticut, 16 for \$537
28. South Carolina, 9 for \$435
29. South Dakota, 11 for \$432
38. Alabama, 3 for \$370
31. Montana, 5 for \$320
32. West Virginia, 10 for \$295
33. Maryland, 8 for \$295
34. Louisiana, 4 for \$275
35. Oklahoma, 7 for \$243
36. Idaho, 5 for \$235
37. New Mexico, 4 for \$235
38. Wyoming, 3 for \$182
29. Arizona, 5 for \$154
40. Hawaii, 3 for \$150
41. Arkansas, 4 for \$135
42. Alaska, 1 for \$120
43. New Hampshire, 2 for \$105
44. Utah, 3 for \$100
45. Virginia, 4 for \$73
46. Vermont, 1 for \$25
47. Delaware, 1 for \$7

CONTRIBUTION UPDATE *Continued from page 33*

will now make a final determination as to whether we can continue as a public foundation or have to accept private status. If it is the latter, it means that the NHPF would have to pay taxes on earned income. While the final IRS ruling could take as long as 120 days, I was informed by phone that initial review of our report indi-

cated no reason for a change.

Contributions have been on the upswing since the mailing of the information pamphlet to all NHPA households. 86 contributions totaling \$7,464 were received and deposited since our last update. Regardless of what the IRS ruling might be, your contributions will remain tax

deductible. Continued support is needed and will be greatly appreciated. Your check to the NHPF can be mailed to either P.O.Box 159027, Nashville, TN 37215 or the NHPF Treasurer, 6233 Woodman Dr., Oroville, CA 95966.

Contributions received in January and February

Gene Gross, MN
Randy Joines, NC
Merwyn Sorensen, WI
John Carlin, WI
Robert Sheldon, OH
Jim Sanders, MT

DONATING \$100-190
Anonymous, NJ
Art & Phyllis Hall, OH
Julius Hamilton, SC

LeRoy HPA, NY
(in memory of Herb Miller)
James Norville, MI
Roland Kleinschmidt, SD
Edward Gebhart, SD
C. Winfred Willard, IL
Fred Armstrong, FL
Arthur Holter, MN
The Horseshoe Trader, MN
Ronnie Joines, NC
Monty Roberts, KY

New Jersey State HPA
Dave & Cathie Loucks, CA

DONATING \$200-290
Patrick Murtha, CA
Ward Lutz, MN
Eau Claire Horseshoe Club, WI
NHPA Money Market interest \$1692
Joelton Court Fees \$1919
Deposited through 3/1/01, a total of \$129, 358.06

SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

Promote your special event here.

If your tournament is set apart from the usual, to benefit charity, raise funds or has in excess of \$1,000 prize money, mail details to the *Newsline* Editor at least 90 days in advance.

MAY 2001

20TH ANNUAL HEAD-OF-THE-MON-RIVER HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT MAY 26,27,28, FAIRMONT, WEST VIRGINIA. Registration fee of \$25 must be included with the entry form below. Forms and fees must be post marked May 10, 2001, and can be mailed to Tri-County Horseshoe Club, Inc., 1133 Sunset Dr, Fairmont, WV 26554. (304) 366-3819 or (304) 282-4062. Director: Ms Beverly Tiano. There will be a \$5 fee for Juniors. All players will be required to pay scorekeepers one dollar (\$1) per game. 100% of all entry fees is returned by purse. The purse should exceed \$5,000 for cash prizes and other awards and will be divided equally among all classes. NO REFUNDS. NHPA dress code will be enforced. NATSTATS will be used to determine initial placement of classes.

JUNE 2001

TED ALLEN MEMORIAL HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT AT NATOMA, KANSAS-CITY PARK JUNE 9-10, 2001. Ted Allen's birthplace. Entry fee \$20 including scorekeeping fees. 80% payback plus added money. Starting time 9 a.m. Have 12 clay courts with cement pads and some sand courts. Free camping with electric and water nearby and sewer dump. Entries close May 10. Send entries to Bill Reh Box 314, Natoma, KS 67651. Phone 785-885-4482.

OREGON OPEN, HERMISTON, OREGON, JUNE 9-10. \$5 TOURNAMENT. CONTACT RICK REBMAN 541-567-8560.

EASTERN NATIONALS JUNE 15-16-17, 2001, ERIE, PA.: TOTAL PURSE \$3500 PLUS IN CASH AND AWARDS WITH 150 ADULT ENTRIES. NO GENDER MIXED. Below 35% plays 30 point games.

Women will handicap below Class A. Entry deadline June 2, 2001. Class A men entry \$35; all other adult classes \$25; Juniors-Free. Check payable to Erie Horseshoe Club % Sally Siegel, 4147 Stanton St, Erie PA 16510. Phone 1-814-825-0666. TROPHIES FOR 1ST PLACE.

JUNE-JULY 2001

RINGER CLASSIC, GREENVILLE, OHIO, JUNE 30-JULY 1-2. ENTRY FEE \$25 FOR ADULTS; JUNIORS FREE. Additional fee \$25 for Championship Men & Women, \$15 for Class B Men & Women, \$10 for Class C Men. Fee payable to Darke County Horseshoe club. Mail to Mary Fleenor, 8494 Baker Rd, Versailles, Ohio 45380. Phone 937-526-5457.

VALLEY OF THE ROGUE, ROGUE RIVER, OREGON, COYOTE EVANS STATE PARK (EXIT 48), JUNE 30-JULY 1. CONTACT CHARLES ANDERSON 541-582-1456.

JULY-AUGUST 2001

WORLD TOURNAMENT, HIBBING, MINNESOTA, JULY 30-AUGUST 11. Refer to March-April issue for entry form. Deadline May 17. Late entries will be put on a waiting list.

AUGUST 2001

3RD ANNUAL MIDWEST SENIOR CLASSIC, IOWA STATE FAIR-GROUNDS, DES MOINES, IOWA, AUG. 13. MEN AND WOMEN AGE 60 AND OVER BY AUG. 13. Mixed competition. All 30 and 40 ft. men and women pitchers will be classed together according to NATSTAT average. (men and women will not be classed separately). Over \$1800 in prize money paid in 2000, everyone receives a minimum payback of Entry Fee amount. Deadline to enter is July 28. Send request or phone for State Fair Flyer/Entry Form: LeRoy Law, Superintendent of Horseshoes, 1788 NW 10th St, Clive, Iowa 50325. (515) 223-4274.



NHPA GAME RELATED SALES DISTRIBUTORS

EDWARD A. DOMEY
National Buyer
 P.O. Box 298
 Sutton, Massachusetts 01590
 (508) 865-9477 Phone or Fax

DENNIS OHMS
 777 W. Midvalley Road
 Cedar City, Utah 84720
 (435) 586-9352
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